French, Jordanian banks sign accord

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) - The French bank Credit National signed an agreement with Jordan's Cairo-Amman Bank on Tuesday to provide economic aid for the Palestinians in the occupied territories, diplomats said here. The French bank, which acts on behalf of the treasury, will provide 20 million franes (\$3.2 million) in aid, in accordance with a pledge by President Francois Mitterrand. The funds will be used to guarantee loans to Palestinian businessmen made by the Cairo-Amman Bank and to finance development projects. The loans will be for agricultural and industrial goods, along with French service products. The Cairo-Amman Bank reopened its branches in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in 1986. It is the only Jordanian bank currently operating in the Israeli-occupied territories.

A Franco-Palestinian protocol on aid was signed last June. Norway, which brokered the historic deal between Israel and the PLO, will contribute to major infrastructure projects in the occupied territories, Norwegian government officials said Tuesday.



British aid worker freed in Somalia

MOGADISHU (R) — Somali kidnappers released British aid worker Calum Gardner unharmed in Mogadishu on Tuesday after some 24 hours of negoriarions with a clan elder. "He is out (of captivity) but be is not physically yet in the office," Gemmo Londesant, head of the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) in Somalia, told Reuters. "He is on his way. I just spoke to him by radio and he is very well and in very good humour." Mr. Londesant said the 35-year-old British finance officer, who was kidnapped by three Somali gunmen Monday as he walked between the WFP office and his home, had a radio handset with him when he was abducted. "He was never allowed to use it while with him when he was abducted. "He was never allowed to use it while he was in captivity. But he just called me and said he is released," Mr. Londesani said. He said a joint team from the WFP and British charity Save the Children fund plus the Somali elder who had been negotiating for the Briton's release since Monday would collect him. He declined to say who held Mr. Gardner or where he was freed. The WFP enlisted the help of clan elders to secure Mr. Gardner's release on Monday and said it had received word he was unharmed. Nn faction or the daily and responsibility for the Widson. faction or clan claimed responsibility for the kidnap.

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Crown Prince. Major hold talks

LONDON (Petra) - His

Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday met with British Prime Minister John Major and discussed bilateral relations and means of promoting them. Prince Hassan and Mr. Major also exchanged views on the political situation in the Middle East and the need for respect for International Law which enbances the principle of sovereignty and meets buman needs of the region's people. They also discussed the possibilities of bringing about economic and trade cooperation between the countries of the region and Europe.

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Tarawneh to serve as envoy to Mexico

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Tuesday appointing Dr. Fayez Tarawneh as non-resident ambassador to Mexico. Dr. Tarawneh is Jordan's ambassador to the United States. Another Royal Decree was issued Tuesday appointing Dr. Abdul Rahman Atiyat as president of Muta University.

Spanish official arrives for talks

fallene SOUTH SHUNEH (Petra) per ca Under-Secretary of the Spanish Foreign Ministry Francisco ing tek Villiar arrived in Jordan OUTGE Wednesday via the King Hussein Bride on a two-day visit to Jordan, Mr. Villiar will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials on bilateral relations.

Weekly licensed

AMMAN (Petra) - The Conneil of Ministers bas granted journalist Fabd Al Rimawi a licence to issue a political weekly. The Arabiclanguage weekly will be entitled Al Majd. Mr. Rimawi is making preparations to publish the first issue in April.

NATO leaders hail Mideast peace accords

Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) leaders on Tuesday hailed Mideast peace accords saying they offered "an bistorie opportunity" for a peaceful and lasting settlement in the region. "This much-awaited breakthrough bas had a positive impact on the overall situation in the Mediterranean, thus opening the way to consider measures to promote dialogne, understanding and confidence-building between the countries in the region. NATO said in a statement concluding a two-day summit. The 16-state alliance encouraged "all efforts conducive to strengthening regional secur-

iraq-U.N. talks delayed by 2 weeks

BAGHDAD (AFP) — Talks between Iraq and the United Nations on the embargo in force since August 1990 have been delayed by two weeks, a U.N. official said here Tuesday. Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz had said the negotiations would be beld in mid-January in New York. But the U.N. official said they would now open at the end of the month or in early February. The two sides are busy compiling the necessary documents before the next round of negotiations," the official told AFP. They need two weeks to prepare for the meeting." He also said that long-term monitoring of Iraq's post-war weapons programmes "has in effect

Iran reports major seizure of alcohol

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iranian security forces seized 26,000 litres of alcohol in a bouse in eastern Tehran this week and arrested several people who had turned the house into an "alcohol factory," the Kayban daily reported Tuesday. Reports of major seizures of alcoholic drinks have become increasingly common in the Iranian media. A huge haul of 60,000 litres of alcohol found in Tehran was reported last

Progress reported in Taba negotiations

Document being drafted on points of agreement and disagreement

TABA (Agencies) — New Palestinian demands for corridors out of the Jericho autonomous region bogged down peace talks Tuesday, but Israeli and Palestinian negotiators reportedly came to terms on other key points of the autonomy plan, officials

Israel Television reported that the talks would recess after Wednesday's sessions to allow both delegations time to consult with their political

Nabil Shaath, the chief Palestinian delegate, and Israeli spokesman Ami Gluska both said negotiators were hammering out a written document summarising points of agreement and disagreement, but dismissed earlier reports that a final agreement had been reached.

"I cannot say there is agree-ment on anything yet," Col-onel Gluska said. "We have presented our positions, and on some of them there is no response yet, but on other points the Palestinians are demanding more, if there was agreement we would be celebrating, but there isn't."

"All issues are being discussed," Dr. Shaath said. "We. will not announce any agreement on specific items because all of the problems are interrelated.'

The Palestinian negotiator said that with sufficient goodwill an agreement might come in three weeks, but without it the talks might take much lon-

Israel Radio reported earlier

that the sides had reached agreement on control of border crossings, and Israeli newspapers said the Palestinians had agreed to an Israeli proposal for the size of Jericho.

Talks on implementing the Sept. 13 Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) accord for autonomy in the occupied Gaza Strip and Jericho on the West Bank resumed Monday at this Egyptian Red Sea resort after a two-week hiatus.

Disagreement over control of border crossings and the size of the autonomous areas has already delayed by a month the Dec. 13 target for starting Israeli troop withdrawal.

The Israeli delegation head, Major-General Amnon Shabak, the deputy chief of staff, and Dr. Sbaath met privately in the first session Tuesday, Mr. Gluska said.

Dr. Shaath said the sides then met separately to discuss security-related problems and. the transfer of the autonomous zone's civilian administration to the Palestinians. The two sides agreed to

write down all points of accord, to avoid a repetition of the fiasco in Cairo on Dec. 29, when Israel claimed an under-.. standing had been reached on the main bone of contention.

only for the PLO to deny it.
"A drafting committee (on has starte write down the subjects on which we agree and the security questions on which differences remain," Col. Gluska

"The delegation beads to the

committee on civilian issues are doing the same," be added. The military committee, made up of a legal expert and a

military officer from either side, met in a ninth floor suite of the Hilton Hotel at this

Foreign Ministry legal adviser Yoel Singer and General David Agmon, a chief of staff adviser on the intifada, were drafting a document with Camille Mansur, an international law professor and the PLO's Abdul Razak Al Yahia.

The four face the main issues which have delayed implementation of the autonomy deal — the size of the Jericho enclave and the control of borders and crossings between the autonomous areas and Jordan and Egypt.

Israeli Gen. Gadi Zobar, head of the military administration in the West Bank, and Palestinian businessman Jamil Tarifi, met to draw up a list for the civilian committee, which covers the transfer of powers to the Palestinian authority for health, education, direct taxation, social welfare and tour-

The decision to draft a list of points was taken by Gen. Sbabak and Dr. Shaatb during their tete-a-tete in Tuesday

Meanwhile, the Palestinians continued to demand access to ea and several religious sites south of the Jericho "We are no longer talking

about square kilometres for

(Continued on page 5)



Israeli chief negotiater Majnr-General Amnon Shahak (right) and Palestinian counterpart Nabil Shauth meet over lunch Tuesday on the second

day of renewed talks in the Red Sea resort of Taba (AFP photo)

Draft budget under fire in House; deputies table demands

By Ayman Al Safadi Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — General discussions of broad economic principles and demands for more services in various parts of the Kingdom Tuesday dominated the first day of a Lower House of Parliament session on the draft budget for 1994.

But some deputies specifi-cally criticised the JD 1.487 million budget for increasing expenditure as other lawmakers challenged the government's contention that the budget is "deficit-free." Twelve deputies took the

floor in what is expected to be a four-day session that will end with a House endorsement of the draft budget, which was presented to the legislature last The Finance Committee at

the House Saturday recommended that the House approve the draft budget after introducing some amendments that mainly request a "symbolie" reduction in expenditure.

The committee recommended that the government cut by JD 6 million its projected JD 36 million current expenditure for 1994 but Deputy Abdullah Ensour (Balqa) said the reduction should be much higher.

The draft budget projects a 12 per cent increase in current expenditure over the actual

Kassasbeh said a study concurrent expenditure in 1993 but Dr. Ensour said the mcrease over 1993 should not have been higher than five per cent, adding that such an adjustment would cut by JD 70 million the "deficit" in the budget.

Dr. Ensour described as false the assertion of Minister of Finance Sami Gammob that the budget was deficit free, saying that he estimated the deficit at JD 450 million.

Dr. Ensour also questioned the accuracy of the budget's estimate of the growth in the gross domestic product (GDP) and demanded that the government explain the source of the revenues.

Dr. Ensour also cast doubt on the correctness of government figures on unemployment, claiming that earlier information provided by the Ministry of Finance put unemployment at 19.7 per cent, compared to the 12 per cent that Mr. Gammob announced when be presented the budget to Parliament.

The government was also challenged over its estimates of the level of poverty in the country by Deputy Ahmad Kassasbeh (Karak).

Mr. Gammob bad said that the level of poverty in Jordan went down from 21.30 per cent of the population in 1991 to 16.2 per cent in 1992. But Mr.

ducted by the Department of Statistics estimated that the poverty level in 1992 stood at 21.3 per cent. He said only in Amman it stood at 16.2 per cent while it would reach 26.7 per cent in the Kingdom if the capital and the central city of Zarqa are excluded.

Deputies also demanded that the government raise salaries of public servants and army personnel and do not lift subsidies from basic goods. They said the controversial sales tax should not be introduced if it would lead to a higher cost of living.

Deputies also said the govefforts to accelerating economic development and growth outside the capital, with Mr. Kassasbeb pointing out that 74 per cent of private investment located in the canital.

The rural and badieb areas should receive more attention from the government and private and public corporations should contribute to economie growth in areas where they are located, deputies said.

They said the allocations of funds to various governorates in the Kingdom do not correspond with their needs, adding that the earmarking of separate budgets to the eight governorates did not do much to

Jordan to help revamp Yemen army, end crisis

AMMAN (R) - Jordan, trying to reconcile Yemen's squabbling leaders, has agreed to a Yemeni request for help in reorganising its divided army, officials said on Tuesday.

Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Sbaker discussed the demand in detail during a brief visit to Yemen on Monday, his third in less than two months to try and avert a political crisis threatening to tear the country apart, the officials said.

Major-General Eid Rawdan, head of the Jordanian army's training and operations department, attended Sharif Zeid's separate meetings with President Ali Abdullah Saleb in Taiz and Vice President Ali Salem Al Beedh in Aden, they

'We have agreed to their demand and we are going to send them a number of qualified Jordanian army officers soon to help them reorganise the army (that never united after the merger)," a Jordanian official told Reuters.

He declined to give more details on the type of belp sought by Yemen. Other officials were not immediately available for comment.

Southern and northern army units that were to have merged under the 1990 agreement which unified the two states have not been fully integrated.

Aden, capital of the former South Yemen, bas accused Sanaa, capital of the former North Yemen, of placing its forces on full alert and recalling border troops.

King Hussein was expected to arrange for a reconciliation meeting between Mr. Saleb and Mr. Beedh either in Yemen or in Amman after be returns from a visit to Washington later this month. another Jordanian official said. "We expect it to be held in a

month from now," he added. "Of course, if there was no hope in reconciling them and in saving the country, the King would not bave involved himself personally and at the request of the two Yemeni leaders... and Sharif Zeid would not have gone there three times as bis envoy."

Yemenī party sources said on Tuesday the country's rival groups have agreed on military and political measures they hope will end the crisis. (see page 10).

(Continued on page 5)

Clinton starts talks with Visegrad chiefs in Prague

PRAGUE (Agencies) — U.S. President Bill Clinton began talks here Tuesday trying to convince leaders of the four Visegrad ex-communist states of the wisdom of bis go-slow approach on bringing them into the West's security orbit.

During a 24 bour visit, be was due to have talks with the heads of state of the Czech Republie, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia on the so-called Partnership for Peace, which bas been criticised in particular by Poland.

The partnership proposals, on increased military cooperation between the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and ex-communist states, were agreed by the 16 NATO members in Brussels Monday (see separate story). Mr. Clinton arrived here

Tuesday afternoon — on bis first official visit to Prague to be greeted by Czech President Vaclav Havel and Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus. After official ceremonies

and a brief hand-shaking walkabout at Prague's historie Hradcany Castle, the president's official residence, Mr. Clinton went into talks with Mr. Havel and Mr. Klaus. Details were not immediate-

ly available. In a statement last week the Visegrad group of countries said the partnership was a good first step, but made clear their desire for fuller integration into NATO as soon

as possible.

Mr. Clinton is due on Wednesday morning to hold separate meetings with Hungarian President Arpad Goncz, Polish President Lech Walesa and Slovak President Michal

The four Visegrad states have accepted the partnership proposals with varying degrees of enthusiasm, Poland bas been particularly critical in calling for faster moves towards full NATO membersbip.

Optimism over Ukraine

President Clinton conceded earlier Tuesday that a plan to dismantle Ukraine's nuclear force could face a tough fight in the former Soviet republic's parliament, but be predicted its approval.

"Executives often have to sell to their legislative branches what they know is in the best interest of their country," Mr. Clinton said.

He likened Ukrainian President Leonid M. Kravchuk's fight for the new pact announced on Monday - to his own battle for U.S. congressional approval of a contentinus free-trade pact with Mexico and Canada.

Mr. Clinton spoke at a wrapup news conference after the NATO summit.

NATO summit ends, signalling a new era

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — Revamping the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in the post-cold war era, alliance leaders on Tuesday wound up a two-day summit by declaring a readiness to let their former foes in Eastern Europe join the exclusive elub one day.

But the allies, fearful of. isolating Russia, a formidable military power, did not draw up a timetable or a list of candidates for membership in . the organisation.

In a final statement, the 16 leaders endorsed the American proposal "Partnership for Peace," which invites East Europeans to take part in military rexercises and other limited activities.

"The offer is there," said NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner. "The door is open.'

"NATO is bent on bringing Europe together," said British Prime Minister John Major. Added Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien, "if we can. expand the membership, let's

And President Bill Clinton told the East Europeans: "ultimately, the partnership will lead to the enlargement of

Lithuania, a former Soviet republic, quickly moved to accept the alliance's partnership offer.

President Algirdas Brazaus-kas instructed his government to start "immediate preparation" to sign a partnership document with the Western alliance.

The approval of the partnership plan was part of efforts by the 44-year-old alliance to redo its image and give it new missions after the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe. NATO was formed to thwart expansionist Soviet In their statement, the allies

also renewed their commitment to the Trans-Atlantic linkwhich they described as the "bedrock of NATO."

"All our countries wish to continue the direct involvement of the United States and Canada in the security of Europe," it said.

Several leaders praised Mr. Clinton for reaffirming bis intention to keep 100,000 troops in Europe. A reduction in forces to that level, expected to be completed in 1996, would be down from 325,000 in 1991.

As an interim measure, NATO offered military cooperation to East European, former Soviet and neutral states, including joint exercises, offices at the Brussels beadquarters and the right to call for "consultations if they felt threatened.

(Continued on page 5)

Kabul battles subside, refugee flight continues

KABUL (Agencies) — Fighting between rival Afgban forces subsided Tuesday after 10 days of fierce clashes that left hundreds dead and more than

4,500 injured. Analysts said the combatants could be gathering strength for a fresh flare-up. The city has been in the grip of a devastating power struggle with the combined forces of Uzbek warlord Abdul Rashid Dostum and Premier Gulbuddin Hekmatyar battling to end the rule of President Burha-

nuddin Rabbani. Most parts of the capital were relatively quiet in the morning, though sporadic explosious rocked the eastern districts with rockets and shells landing on the Zambourak

Most shops remained elosed in central Kabul but retail business resumed in the western district where shops were open and people were seen buying daily necessities.

On Tuesday more than 400 families, many who fled Kabul with little more than the clothes on their back, crossed into Pakistan. Border guards said more than 1,200 of Tuesday's refugees were young chil-

In the past three days up to 18,000 Afghans have sought refuge in Pakistan, border offi-

cials said. The United Nations estimates another 50,000 Kabul residents fled 115 kilometres east to Jalalabad, where the U.N. was trying to get desperately needed aid to several makeshift camps on the out-

skirts of the city. Sixteen U.N. trucks, packed with emergency supplies, left for Jalalabad Tuesday from

Pakistan. The latest fighting in Afghanistan began Jan. 1 when troops loyal to Mr. Hekmatyar tried to topple President rab-

But, Mr. Rabbani appears to bave been able to maintain his grip on key government buildings and strategie military sites. Government-owned Kabul Radio, off the air for more than one week, resumed

broadcasting on Monday. However, Gen. Dostum, whose soldiers are known for their ruthlessness, control the major cities and towns in northern Afghanistan, despite attempts by Mr. Rabbani's sol-

diers to wrestle control away. Gen. Dostum's biggest military strength is his fleet of Soviet made fighter jets parked on the tarmac of the airport at Mazar-e-Sharif, 300 kilometres

north of Kabul. Mr. Rabbani's soldiers on Tuesday accused Gen. Dostum of bombing its biggest air base at Bagram, 40 kilometres north of Kabul, but said the damage was minimal.

'This bombig doesn't bave much effect on us," said com-mander Bismillah Khan. Gen. Dostum's planes bave made occasional sorties over Kabul, hitting government buildings and some residential

Meanwhile, in Pakistan representatives of the U.N. and the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) tried to brnker a lasting peace in Afghanistan.

Ibrahim Baka, the OIC's special representative on Afghanistan met with representatives from both Mr. Hekmatyar's and Mr. Rabbani's Sadiq Chakhri, a Rabbani

spokesman, said the president was ready to talk to Mr. Hekmatyar but refuses to negotiate with Gen. Dostum because of his communist past. Mr. Chakhri said Mr. Rabbani also planned to go abead

with general elections in six months. But Mr. Hekmatyar's spokesman, Saeed Qaribur, said his party is demanding Mr. Rabbani's immediate resigna-

Mr. Qaribur also said temporary ceasefires only allow

(Continued on page 5)

PLO and Egypt near economic

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisa tion (PLO) and Egypt are expected to agree an economic accord this week similar to the one which the PLO signed with Jordan covering future links in Palestinian self-rule areas,

PLO officials said Tuesday. No date for signing the agreement has been set. PLO officials say it is likely to be immediately after Israel and the PLO agree details of Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jerieho.

The PLO Executive Committee bas agreed a draft for the accord with Egypt and the bead of the PLO's Political Department, Farouk Kaddoumi, is to visit Cairo this week to finalise it, the officials

Palestinians, say the first result of the agreement would be the opening of joint Palestinian-Egyptian banks and the establishment of a free industrial zone in Rafah in the Gaza Strip.

The PLO representative in Cairo, Saeed Kamal, said: 'The framework of this accord, which will be signed soon, was examined during the recent visit to Cairo of Mr. Farouk Kaddoumi." He declined to provide de-

PLO as well as promoting the Palestinian economy. "The details and bases of this accord will be examined (by both parties) in the next two weeks," he added.

tails on the agreement but said

it "aims at bolstering the spe-

cial ties between Egypt and the

Mr. Kamal also said the agreement would be different from the joint declaration signed Friday in Amman be-tween Jordan and the PLO, but did not say how.

agreement

U.N. chief recommends reduced Somalia force, warns of anarchy

UNITED NATIONS (AP) -U.N. Secretary-General Bout-ros Ghali Monday proposed reducing the U.N. peacekeeping force in Somalia to 16,000 troops, warning that the country remained at risk of civil strife and anarchy.

In a report to the Security Conncil, the U.N. chief painted a grim picture of deteriorating security, rearming and fighting among clans, and growing banditry in Mogadishu and elsewhere. He said threats and attacks directed at international relief workers had increased, forcing them to stop activities in some parts of the COUNTY.

In Mogadishu, meanwhile unidentified Somalis abducted a British worker with the U.N. World Food Programme, Calum Gardner, as he walked to his office Monday morning. About 26,000 U.N. troops

remain in Somalia. But the United States, France, Belguim, Sweden, Italy and other countries have announced plans to withdraw their soldiers, that could leave only 19,700 U.N. troops in Somalia by the end of March.

The United Nations bas appealed to 42 countries for additional troops and logistic support to make up for the losses, hut there have been few positive responses, except from India and Pakistan which promised earlier to send 2,300 more soldiers.

Without the continued stabilising presence of an adequate U.N. force, there would be an early resumption of civil strife and an unravelling of all that has been achieved at the cost of so much sacrifice human and material," Dr. Ghali told the council in a report released Monday.

There are growing indications that the major factions are actively rearming in anticipation of renewed hostilities in the coming months," he

Security problems bave made donor states reluctant to contribute troops and aid to

The council was expected to begin considering the secretary-general's report this week. Diplomats said it was likely to approve the U.N. chief's recommendation of a

NAIROBI (AFP) — Twelve

factions opposed to warlurd

Mohammad Farah Aideed

Monday urged the United Na-

tions to keep peacekeepers in

Somalia after the U.S. pullout

OSOM [the U.N. operation in

Somalia] will signal the revival

of internecine clan warfare

which brought about the

starvation that shocked the

world," said representatives of

groups in the Somali Salvation

Alliance, led by General

Aideed's enemy, self-styled In-

terim President Ali Mahdi

The alliance urged the U.N.

Security Council to heed U.N.

Secretary-General Boutros

Ghali's call for peacekeepers

forces to stay in Somalia after

U.S. troops withdraw to pre-

vent renewed factional fight-

Hassan Mirreh, an alliance

spokesman, told a news con-

ference that Gen. Aideed was

the higgest threat to peace and

denied reports that he had

opened talks with the 12 fac-

his group that we are ready to

enter into negotiations at any

time." Mr. Mirreh said. "But

"We have told Aideed and

tions in Nairohi.

"The departure of UN-

in March.

Mobammad.



Boutros Gheli

force of 16,000 before the current mandate expires at the end of May.

As before, the secretarygeneral outlined three options
— a major force of 30,000, with coercive military powers; a middle-sized contingent of 16,000 without coercive powers; and a 5,000-man force that would only keep open the country's major ports and air-

Dr. Ghali said be preferred the first option, including forcihle disarmament to the clan militias if necessary, hut said it was not practical because of the troop withdrawals.

Given the circumstances, he recommended the force of 16,000. This would be sufficient to protect ports and airports, beip deliver relief shipments and keep supply routes open, train Somali police and set np a judicial system, and

repatriate refugees.
But Dr. Ghali expressed doubt that even the second option was workable without the required commitment of troops, material and financial

He also doubted whether reconciliation among the Somali people had progressed far enough for the United Nations to assist in nation build-

ing and reconstruction. U.S.-led troops arrived in December 1992 to belp Somalia recover from the famine and anarchy which claimed 350,000 lives that year. The

Anti-Aideed factions urge U.N. to

maintain peacekeepers in Somalia

we have not yet received a

ports that Kenya was trying to

broker new talks between

Gen. Aideed, who came here

more than two weeks ago after

negotiations in Addis Ababa

collapsed, and rival warlords.

ports that the 12 groups were

preparing an offensive against

Gen. Aideed after march. "We

are preparing for peace, not

the secession of the Somali-

land republic in north-west

The alliance also rejected

Fullowing talks here last

week between Gen, Aideed

and Mohammad Egal, the

leader of the breakaway repub-

lie which has failed to win

international recognition since

it declared independence in

1991, the alliance called for

had rejected Aideed's offer of

a ministerial post in a proposed

new government if he brought

Somaliland back into Somalia.

of Somaliland was "final and

Somali unity was not negoti-

Mr. Egal said the secession

The alliance, however, said

Somali sources said Mr. Egal

Mr. Mirreh dismissed re-

His statement followed re-

response."

Somalia.

national unity.

irrevocable."

United States turned the operation over to the United Nations in May, but it quickly soured. Critics say the United Nations focused too heavily on trying to capture warlord Mohammad Farah Aideed to the expense of its humanitarian

After an Oct. 3 firefight with Aideed forces that killed 18 American soldiers, a Malaysian peacekeeper and about 300 Somalis, the U.N. force stopped trying to capture General Aideed and instead tried to bring him into negotiations on a political settlement.

While the U.N. had been preparing for a diminished military presence, however, the security situation for the civilian aid workers has grown markedly worse. There is little fighting among the clan mili-tias, but banditry and other violence has been on the rise.

The safety of aid workers and food shipments was one of the major justification for the U.S.-led intervention in Somalia 13 months ago.

U.S. gets 'black eye' Former President George Bush said Monday that the United States has received a 'hlack eye" around the world for its "stop-and-start" foreign policy in Somalia.

Mr. Bush's criticism came dnring a \$500-a-head fundluncheon for Senator Paul Coverdell, a Georgia republican. About 250 Republican supporters attended. Mr. Bush said the initial goal

of the United States was to end starvation in Somalia, which is why be agreed to commit 28,000 U.S. troops in the waning days of his administration. The United States went into Somalia "with that limited mis-

sion in mind," he said. Bnt, Mr. Bush said, "somewhere along the line the policy changed. It got clouded. We started into a stop-and-start kind of a mentality relating to

He said the United States is now trying to extricate its troops from a dangerous situation in Somalia, "but not without the United States baving received a black eye all around the world for this stopping and starting, good news, bad news situation."

able and any attempt to divide

the Horn of Africa country

devastated by war and famine

small both in land and popula-

tion and any further diminu-

tion of its size would seriously

endanger its defence capability

and its economic viability," the

alliance said in a statement

Mohammad Abdi Hashi,

another alliance spokesman.

said that any new government

should try to persuade Somali-

land's leaders to ahandon their

declaration, but did not rule

out the use of force to prevent

"the dismemberment of Soma-

The alliance also protested

Mr. Mirreh said the tradi-

tional inhabitants of a 300-

kilometre-long swath of terri-

tory were being forced to flee

their homes and farms at gun-

point because they did not

belong to Gen. Aideed's Habr

He complained that "UN-

OSOM only watched helpless-

ly as this sad situation un-

USEFUL TELEPHONE

that Gen. Aideed's forces were

carrying out "ethnic cleansing"

south of Mogadishu.

Gedir clan.

"Somalia is already very

was "high treasun."

REBUILT: Iraqi Minister of Military Industry and Mining Hussein Kamel Hassan (second right) visits Beijl refinery, 200 kilometres north

of Baghdad, at its reopening on Monday (see page 7). The refinery was bombed during the 1991 Gulf war over Kuwait (AFP photo)

Kenya seeks Israeli investments By Dan Perry

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli leaders praised Kenya Monday for its help in the Entebbe rescue and Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi urged Israelis to invest in his country.

Mr. Moi, president of the one of the most infinential black African states, expressed concern Kenya's stability was being strained by an influx of

refugees.
"There is now serious insecurity in many parts of our country as a result of these refugees entering into our land with sophisticated arms and weapons," Mr. Moi said in an address to the Knesset, Israel's parliament

He said Kenya now hosted the seventh largest refugee population in the world, most from Somalia.

Mr. Moi added that Kenya bas benefited from Israeli business ventures and was "confident that my visit here will serve to consolidate those

Africa is one of the strongest markets for Israeli arms. Mr. Moi is the most important African leader to visit Israel in recent years: He is only the third African presi-

dent to ever address the Knes-Kenya has had tense relations with the West in recent years over its weak commitwith aid cutoffs threatened, Mr. Moi joins a string of countries at odds with the West like North Korea and Vietnam who see Israel as a potential in-

termediary. Earlier, Mr. Moi and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin signed an agreement for further scientific cooperation as well as more educational and cultural exchanges. Israel currently grants some 70-100 Kenyan students free university educa-

tions each year. Mr. Rahin took the opportunity to publicly thank Kenya for letting Israeli transport planes refuel there on their way back from Entehhe. Uganda, where Israeli commandos rescued 98 hostages hijacked there by Palestinians and Germans in 1976.

"I can tell you with certainty that had not Kenya been prepared to help us, that life and death operation could not bave been carried out," said Mr.

Israel had until now acknowledged only that its planes had been forced to land in Nairohi. It was the first indication that the landing had been coordinated beforehand.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres also thanked Mr. Moi for Kenya's help in the rescue.

Israel goes private, even on the kibbutz

The Associated Press

KIBBUTZ BEEROT YIT-ZHAK — When Eliezer Shafir decided to raise money for the communal farm's industrial pipe factory by selling stock, old-timers were star-

They argued that capitalism was not "our style." recalled Mr. Shafir, who manages the plant on the kibbutz in central Israel's lusb coastal plain.

A year later, this type of privatisation is catching on with other kibbutzim. It is part of a growing economic tide that appears to be drawing Israel inexorably from its socialist roots.

After a slow start. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rahio's government is making good on campaign promises to sell state industries to private investors and encourage the breakup of state monopolies.

Government income from selling factories and banks grew from less than 295 million shekels 1\$100 million1 three years ago to about 4.35 billion shekels (\$1.5 billion) in 1993.

Among holdings sold were a majority interest in Shekem department stores, which began as a chain of sheds selling snacks and basics to soldiers: Nafta, the main distributor of usoline to retail stations: and the Magen insurance company.

Not everyone is pleased about the passing of social-

ism.
The government should have more than pure business cancerns in mind." said Shmuel Elgrabli, a spokesman for the Histadrut federation of trade unions. "The moment a company goes private, the result is cutbacks and layoffs. ...Jobs will be moved to slave lahour in Singapore or Gaza."

Socialism was a guiding light for the Zinnist pioneers. who espoused equality and sacrificing for a common ideal.

The Histadrut started its own companies to create jubs and provide its members nearly all the country's workers - with housing, health care and other services. It hecame a major employer and nearly synphymous with the government because of its association with the Lubour Party, which ruled Israel for its first three decades.

Even though they are not technically state-owned Histadrut companies are generally regarded as part of a public sector that employs directly or indirectly - nearly 20 per cent of Israel's two million workers.

State enterprises include the airline El Al, the main banks, newspapers, food manufacturers, communications companies, construction firms, department stores, insurance companies and oil exploration.

Yossi Nitzani, head of the state companies authority. said many operations "grow wild" because of the natural inclination to expand, but that a statist economy has been much more successful in Israel than in communist

Although defence indus-tries lost 1.1 billion sbekels (\$400 million) last year because of the global recession. others turned a combined profit nearly as great, he said. In 1992, Mr. Nitzani added. state-owned companies were responsible for 17 per cent of the national income and 19 per cent of exports.

Inefficiency and patronage are a problem, however, officials have been accused of using state companies as a dumping ground for party hacks in need of jobs: 3

Israeli governments paid lip service to privatisation for years, but it did not really begin until the return to power in 1993 of the Labour Party, which had created

Because of the patronage allegations. Mr. Rabin's government set up an independent commission to choose top managers for the public

companies. Comparatively little foreign money has been attracted to the privatisation so far, but Mr. Nitzani said he hopes to attract more this year. Companies going on the block include El Al. Zim Shipping Lines, the telephone company. Israel Chemicals and several banks.

Unions worry about their members' jobs. When Israeli Aircraft Industries, being considered for privatisation. announced plans in December to lay off up to 4,000 workers, the Histadrut held a one-day general strike and got a government promise to consult in advance about major sell-uffs.

Doron Tamir of the Israel Manufacturers Association maintains that Israeli workers who are laid off will be able to find new jobs quickly because they are educated professionals.

He described privatisation so far as "more talk than action." and said it "must be quicker, larger-scale and mare decisive.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ex-official admits signing 'Iraqgate' orders

LONDON (AFP) — Former Home Secretary Kenneth Baker admitted Tuesday preventing the release of two documents which would have proved British authorities were aware of illegal sales of material with military uses to Iraq during the 1980s. Mr. Baker, who was interior minister between 1990 and 1992, made the admission while giving evidence to the public inquiry into the so-called "Iraqgate" arms scandal. Mr. Baker told the inquiry he had twice signed public interest orders during trials brought hy customs authorities against British firms accused of breaking the international arms embargo imposed on Baghdad in 1994. The orders allowed documents proving the companies in question were operating with the support and even encouragement of the British intelligence services to be withheld from judicial authorities, the inquiry was told. Iraqgate broke in November 1992 after directors of one of the firms, machine tool manufacturers Matrix Churchill, were acquitted. The judge in the case said be believed the government had given behind-the-scenes encontagement to the defendants' business deals. Mr. Baker said Tuesday that ministry officials had not informed him of the exact contents of the documents withheld from the courts.

Regional Algerian governor killed in

ALGIERS (AFP) — The prefect of Tissemsilt, 280 kilometres southwest of Algiers, Mohammad Bellal, and his escort were killed in an ambusb Tnesday, the security services said. A statement blamed an armed Islamie group for the attack on the regional governor. It did not give the size of the escort.

Court orders analysis of Kraouche papers

PARIS (AFP) - Court authorities have ordered an expert analysis of documents reportedly linking a France-based Islamic activist with armed Algerian extremists. The court also summoned for questioning police who interviewed Moussa Kraouche during a search of his home in November, when the papers were allegedly found among his helongings. The documents purport to include copies of a claim from another movement, the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), that it had kidnapped two French aid workers, and a letter given to Micbele Thevenot, one of three staff in France's Algiers embassy taken hostage in October, by her captors. The court issued its directives after a private hearing in which Mr. Kraouche, the 34-year-old president of the Algerian Brotherhood in france (FAF), which has close ties to Algeria's banned militant Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), did not dispute the origin of the papers. But in an interview Sunday with weekly Journal du Dimanche he accused French police of abusing their powers and planting the allegedly discriminating documents in his house. Mr. Kraouche said police had "fabricated false evidence against me by slipping three pieces of paper into my briefcase that I had never seen befure and which do not belong to me." Mr. Kraouche was detained on Nov. . 13 on charges of associating with criminals involved in "terrorist" activities and released on police bail on Dec. 2.

Top Saudi official visits France

PARIS (AFP) - Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province Governor Prince Muhammad Ben Fahd arrived here on Monday for a three-day official visit and meetings with French President Francois Mirterrand and Prime Minister Edouard Balladur scheduled for Wednesday. The governor, a son of King Fund. was bolding talks Tuesday with Industry and Foreign Trade Minister Gerard Longuet. Defence Minister François Leotard and Interior Minister Charles Pasqua. Prince Mohammad. sometimes described as the king's "husinessman" although be has no government portfolio, was also scheduled to dine with French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe and meet with French business leader François-Xavier Ortoli. The governor's visit. arranged some time ago at the invitation of both Mr. Mitterrand and Mr. Balladur, follows the latter's weekend visit to Riyadh during which France hoped to clinch major arms deals. Instead, Mr. Balladur's visit ended only with the establishment of a committee of experts charged with Franco-Saudi economic dossiers. Saudi Arabia is currently faced with financial problems resulting from falling oil prices and a debt backlog from the Gulf war three years ago. The governor, whose province produces most of Saudi Arabia's oil, was likely to continue discussions with French leaders raised by Mr. Balladur at the weekend. French foreign ministry sources said.

Saudi held for smuggling out of Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) - Kuwaiti police recently arrested a Saudi serviceman trying to smuggle 36 cases of ammunition into his country, the Interior Ministry said Monday. The boxes containing 1.000 cartridges each were hidden in the Saudi's car. Police uncovered the cases as he tried to cross the Kuwait-Saudi border, the ministry said in a statement. The smuggler's name and rank were not given. The Iraqi army, fleeing a U.S.-led military coalition, abandoned a large quantity of arms and ammunition as it withdrew from Kuwait in February 1991, after seven months of occupation. The Kuwaiti government bas repeatedly urged its citizens to turn over weapons they collected after the Iraqi retreat, but many Kuwaitis and expatriates have refused to do so.

11 Sudanese rebels switch sides

KHARTOUM (AFP) — Eleven high-ranking members of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) switched sides to join government forces in the north of the country, a government newspaper reported Monday. The daily Al Ingaz Al Watani said the 11 had announced their defection during a meeting with Parliamentary Speaker Mohammad Amin Al Khalifa in Malakal. The news came after allegations earlier Monday hy rival rebel leader Riek Machar that the SPLA under John Garang was preparing to attack his forces despite a ceasefire agreement between the two factions. Mr. Riek, leader of SPLA United, which broke away from the SPLA, said the government was also massing troops

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10-15	Le Journat De L'Histoire
17:13	News in Hebrew
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20:00	News in Arabic
20-30	Too Close for Comfon
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AMMAN:	
Dr. Ismil Tarit	79471
De Abbos Al Hakim	82544
Dr. Fayez Al Dabbas	75915
Dr. Yousef Rashed	89630
Fires pharmacy	66191
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Al Asema pharmacy	63705
Nairoukh pharmacy	62367
Al Salam pharmacy	63677
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Yacoub pharmacy	63766
Nairoujh pharmscy	94767
Najib pharmacy	04703

Dr. Fayez Al Oadi

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Civil Defence Emergency
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality Complaints
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information
(directory assistance)
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone
Repairs
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
lordan Television 773 1
Radio Jordan
Water Authority 680100
fordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMIMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32	
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6	
Akilch Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2	
Jabat Amman Maternity 642362	
Maihas, J. Amman	
Delection Charles	
Palestine. Shmeisani 664171/4	
Shmeisani Hospital 669131	
University Hospital 845845	
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/9	
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37	
Al-Ahli Abdali 664163/6	
Italian. Al-Muhajreen 777101/3	
Al-Bashir. J. Ashrafich 775111/26	
Army 6Marks 201611/15	
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Amal Hospital 674155	
ZAROA:	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323	
Zarga National Hospital (09)900560 Jbn Sina Hospital	
ion Sina Hospital (09)986732	
Al Hitter Modern Hospital (09)990990	
IRRID:	
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555 Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 But Al Nafees Hospital (02)247100	
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FOR THE TRAVELLER

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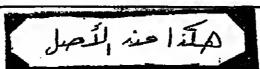
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HUAZ BAILWAY TRAIN





Prince Mohammad confers with U.S. general - His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad. the Regent, Tuesday received at the Royal Court General Joseph Hoar, the head of the U.S. Central Command who is currently on a several-day visit to Jordan, Prince Mohammad and Gen. Hoar reviewed bilateral relations, in addition to regional and international issues of common concern. The audience Ben Shaker, also received general Hoar and was attended by His Royal Highness Prince exchanged views on regional and internation-Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Abdul Hafez The meeting was attended by Gen. Kaabneh

in Amman. Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali also recieved Gen. Hoar and reviewed with him the situation in the region and scopes of mntual cooperation and coordination, in addition to the role played by the Jordanian Armed Forces in maintaining peace and security in different parts of the world. The Royal Court Chief, Sharif Zeid al issues, in addition to hilateral relations. Al Kaabneh, and the U.S. charge d'affaires and the American charge d'affaires.

Majali outlines Jordan's stand on regional issues to senators

AMMAN (Petra) - Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Tuesday reviewed Jordan's political stand and the country's political activities at the national pan-Arab and international levels during a two-anda-half-hour meeting with the Upper House of Parliament, according to House Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi.

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In a statement following the meeting, Mr. Lawzi said that Dr. Majali also answered questions and queries by several senators, particularly focusing on the Jordanian-Palestinian economic deal signed in Amman last Friday; as well as the developments in the peace pro-

Also reviewed by Dr. Majali were His Majesty King Hussein's mediation efforts to bring: about reconciliation among the Arab countries with a view to reestablishing solidarity and united stands in the face of the various challenges and development said Mr.

The Senate voiced appreciation of Dr. Majali's briefing, stressing the need for constant consultations and cooperation between the legislative and the executive authorities, Mr. Lawzi added.

Before the briefing, the Senate held a session, attended by the Cabinet, members, during which it voted a decision by the House's Law Committee concerning a draft law on a teachers union in Jordan.

The Law Committee's report, as read out by its Rapporteur Ahmad Tarawneh, recommended that the House refer to the Higher Council for the Interpretation of the Constitution the question of wbether such a draft law would be in line with the Constitution.

In the debate that ensued later about the draft law, senator Thougan Al Hindawi demanded that the Hnuse continue to examine the draft law while it is being scrutinised by the higher council and until it receives a council's reply.

But his move countered by Mr. Tarawneh who said that the Constitution supersedes all laws and regulations and as it is the highest law, it would be illegal for the House to pursue discussion of the draft law at the

Senator Abdul Latif Arabiyat expressed the view that since the Constitution has granted the right to other professions to form associations, be thought it would grant the teachers the same right, adding that all associations are aimed at promoting their profession.

Both senators, Bahjat Talhouni and Zeid Rifai said right to discuss the draft law in any way before it has been approved by the higher council.

foreign debt burden.

Jordan inaugurates International Year of the Family

King: The family is the basic unit of the society, responsible for raising reliable new generations

AMMAN (Petra) - His Majesty King Hussein said Tuesday that the family constitutes the basic unit of the Jordanian society's structure and serves as the natural environment for raising children and providing them with the society's culture.

In an address inaugurating the International Year Of The Family in Jordan, King Hussein said that Jordan has been keen on implementing Arab and international covenants and on providing the appropriate legislative and administrative guarantees which contribute to the development of the family, the protection of its rights and ensuring its welfare. In his address, delivered on television on his behalf by Minister of Social Development Mohammad Sqour, King Hussein said that the Jordanian society draws its values and ethics from the Arab, Islamic and sublime humanita-

rian principles, noting that relationship among its members

is based on the concept of

citizenship. Relationship among the members of society in Jordan is also based on participation of all factions and institutions in the process of construction and production, with the aim of attaining socio-economic progress within framework marked by freedom, social justice, respect for human rights and

dignity.

Referring to the duty of the state towards the family, King Hussein said: "The state, with its various institutions, ought to provide for the family the requirements for its formation. cohesion and decent living and help it shoulder its responsibilities in raising the new generation of men and women with strong, independent, cooperative personalities."

'The state, together with the family, should work out national policies and programmes aimed at mobilising the

potentials of the youth to enable them to shoulder responsibilities and embark on productive and creative work.

"Special attention should also be given to the care of the handicapped members of society who should be provided with vocational training so as to be able to share their life with the community." Noting that the U.N. Gener-

al Assembly had in 1989 decided on considering 1994 as the International Year of the Family, King Hussein said that this decision was taken in order to achieve a number of objectives, all of which emphasise the importance of the family as the basic unit for a healthy

society.
The U.N. declaration aims at increasing awareness among the public about the role of governments and other sectors and about the impact of economic, social and demographic developments on the family and its members, said the

He said the declaration callson the social institutions torespond favourably to the and step up their efforts, at the local, national and regional. levels, to implement programmes for the advancement of

Fukuda: Japan ready to extend assistance to help Jordan overcome economic difficulties

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Tuesday met with Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Hiroshi Fukuda who reaffirmed Japan's appreciation of Jordan's role in the Middle East peace process and Tokyo's oledge to extend assistance to

Mr. Fukuda said that during the 30-minute meeting, he made a general review of the developments in the peace process and Japanese-Jordanian relations.

Noring that Dr. Majali visited Tokyo last month and 'impressed the (Japanese) government of the difficulties facing Jordan resulting from the Gulf war," Mr. Fukuda said his country stood ready to extend assistance to help the Kingdom overcome its economic difficulties.

with the Jordan Times, Mr. Fukuda, who is on a Middle East visit billed as a familiarisation trip, recalled that his prime minister, Morihiro Hosokawa, had promised Jardan to help it alleviate its

The promise meant that

Japan will make more assistance available to Jordan since (Tokyo) is in no position to write off debts," Mr. Fukuda explained.

Japanese assistance was discussed during his meeting with Dr. Majali, Mr. Fukuda said. But he declined to be

However, he confirmed that Japan was "in the final stage" of granting an \$80 million loan to help develop Jordan's energy sector.

"We also touched upon other potential projects and programmes which will be of mutual interest," he said.

Japan holds about \$900 million of Jordan's \$6.88 billion foreign debts. Most of the Japanese part of the debts is in the form of soft loans for long term at nominal interest rates extended ouring and after the Gulf crisis of 1990-

Japan attaches bigh im-Jordan because of the Kingdom's key role in the Middle East peace process and its "geopolitical" features, Mr.

"We are watching with admiration the efforts demonstrated by Jordan to advance the peace process and

economy," he said, adding that Japan also appreciated the Kingdom's participation in international peacekeeping

operations. By coincidence, he said, during a trip to the Dead Sea on Tuesday he met a Jordanian officer who served with the U.N. force in Cambodia, where Japan also maintains an army unit.

The officer, whose name was not immediately available, spoke about his time in Cambodia and of his meetings with Japanese counterparts, Mr. Fukuda said.

The encounter, the Japanese minister said, "is the kind of experience" that one enjoys and gives an added-personal-dimension to bilateral relations. In-the broader context of

Japanese contribution to the Middle East peace process, Mr. Fukuda noted that lion in assistance to support the Palestinian self-rule envisaged under the Sept. 13 Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) deal.

"This is not a political statement, but a firm commitment," he said, adding tbat \$25 million of the aid

Preliminary work on electric

were already disbursed in the public health and health sectors in the occupied territor-

"We are in a hurry to disburse the rest of the amount, and we are in continous contact with the World Bank and others," he said,

Asked whether Japan shared a reported internarional feeling that there are no "credible" Palestinian institutions to channel the more than \$2.2 billion aid pledged at a donor's conference in October, Mr. Fukuda said:

"The legal requirement of the Japanese assistance has to be met; afterall it is taxpayers' money. We have to be satisfied on our side tbat the assistance is spent for the purpose for which it has been allocated and in-

Mr. Fukuda, who arrived here Monday overland from Israel through the occupied with Israeli Foreign Minister Sbimon Peres, his deputy Yossi Beilin and other Israeli officials as well as Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories, including members and advisors of the peace negotiating team,

"These meetings were very

the fact that it is the first visit to the Middle East after tak-

ing office, Mr. Fukuda said. Japan is playing a key role in the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process. In addition to chairing the multilateral working group on the environment, it is vice-chairman of the committee on regional economic

cooperation and water. Japan is also a member of the working groups on refugees and arms control.

Japanese officials accompanying Mr. Fukuda said two meetings were planned io Cairo next month, of consultarive committees of the multilateral phase, to discuss "a series of specific ideas" for specific projects involving regional cooperation in various

Asked how he viewed the pringress of the peace negotiations between the Arabs and Israel, Mr. Fukuda said: mistic."

Expressing hope that the peace talks would eventually lead to a just and fair peace settlement in the region, he added: "Nobody is going to benefit from failure (of the peace process), but every-body will lose from failure."

Educators believe in all children's right to education

By Ica Wahbeh Jordan Times Staff Reporter AMMAN — In 1982, Hana Kurdi was in the United Kingdom to train for her job: teaching. "I was in a small village, but I was impressed to see that the school was using modern methods of teaching, like play groups, that were baving good results," said Mrs. Kurdi, an educator and the

operates mostly on the hills of Bani Hamida. The committee, started in 1982, now comprises 21 members busy raising funds to help the less fortunate in the villages of Jdaideh and Areed have their own kindergartens.

head of the Zahra Welfare

Committee, a charity that

A third is planned for Baluta. The kindergartens, furnished with toys and having teachers due to the efforts of the charity, implement the national curriculum, but also lecture parents on bow to deal with their children and on aspects of child development. Mrs. Kurdi and ber society emulate the methodology of Anne d'Aquila, educator in the Sheffield Children Centre, one of the most famous in England, to which she became acquainted when in the U.K.

At Sheffield, children from every denomination, race and background are taught on bow to integrate io the education

Ms. d'Aquila, oo ber second visit to Jordan, toured the Bani Hamida kindergartens was shown the village of Dana and became acquainted with its famous restoration efforts.

To their amazement, Mrs.

Kurdi and Ms. d'Aquila discovered that the village children had no school, their needs bad been "completely ignored." So now, the two women plan

to raise funds and even, in the case of Ms. d'Aquila, come with teachers to train young,. local tawjihi graduates for a future kindergarten in Dana (and a playground) and to further train the existent Bani Hamida teachers.

Mrs. Kurdi also plans a library for elementary classes and more work with mothers. To

mothers to attend lectures, on the occasion of religious holidays the committee gives them presents of foodstuff (rice.

The focus is nevertheless the children. "We build up a structure for learning through play; we work on that as it is both educational and instructive," said Mrs. Kurdi.

flour).

Funds for carrying out work come from fund-raising functions and from individual donors. As for interaction, children and mothers from the Sanafer school, which Mrs. Kurdi owns and runs, have done field trips to Bani Hami-

"We wanted to belp children there, to let them play and communicate and learn about Amman," said Mrs. Kurdi, adding that lectures are delivered to the mothers by specialised people, most active being Dr. Munawar Shamaileh from the Ministry of Planning who visits and is the "link between the committee and the kindergartens."

Kirghiz minister visits

educational

establishments AMMAN (Petra) - Visiting Minister of Higher Education of the Kirghiz Republic T. Kakiev Tuesday visited the University of Jordan where he met with university President Fawzi Gharaibeh who briefed him on the establishment and development of the

university.
The two discussed cooperation between the university and the Kirghiz Republic and the prospect of admitting students from the republic at the university.

Mr. Kakiev also met with President Al Al Bait University Adnan Al Bakhit. The visiting minister and Dr. Bakhit discussed cooperation between the university and Kirghiz universities in

cultural and academic fields.

power grid linkage starts and four Middle Eastern countries will meet in the Iraqi

capital of Baghdad on Jan. 15 to initial an agreement, marking the start of work on the electric power grid linkage to be done by 1998. The announcement was

made here Tuesday by Mohammad Saeed Arafeh, director general of the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) who said that delegates from Jordan, Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Turkey will be taking part in the meeting in the presence of officials responsible for electric power institutions in their countries and the joint techniclinkage project.

Mr. Arafeh, who will lead Jordan's team to the Baghdad meeting, said that the participants will discuss bilateral agreements, that is linkage between two neighbouring states, as an initial step, and they will also prepare a draft technical agreement for the whole linkage project that covers funding

for the scheme. He said that the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the Islamic Development Bank in Jeddah have expressed readiness to cover the cost of the whole project.

The meeting will also revise and study technical matters related to the original feasibility study and will prepare an agenda for a ministerial meeting by the five countries, to be held in Cairo in May, according to Mr.

The Baghdad meeting is to be considered as a continuation of the practical process of linking the five countries electric pewer grids, in implementation of a ministerial resolution on the project taken by the five countries in June

last year, Mr. Arafeh continued.

He said the five countries' ministers responsible for energy decided in their meeting in Damascus in 1992 to complete the first stage of the project by 1997. This, he said, entails laying networks between Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Turkey, while the second stage entails linking Syria with Iraq, to be completed by 1998. He said that one last stage entails linking Iraq with Turkey, by

Woman burns herself to death

By Rana Hussseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A 21-year-old woman from Jabal Joseph committed suicide Monday, following a family argument with her husband, according to civil defence and police reports.

Abeer Halaby, a Syrian national, died in front of her house door after she poured gazoline to her body and burnt berself, Bakri Halabi, the victims' husband told police.

Mr. Halaby, 37, told police he tried to put off the fire in an effort to save his wife, but failed, according to police re-The couple, who have been living in the area for four

years, were rushed to Al

Bashir hospital. The woman

was declared dead upon arrival

and the husband suffered

minor burns on his hands, according to civil defence re-A 45-year-old Jofeh resi-

dent, who owns a store on Khalid Ibn Al Walid Street. across from the couple's resident, told the Jordan Times the couple frequently quarrelled; he never expected the woman would commit suicide, though.

"I was shocked when I heard about the incident because Abeer was well-mannered and respected by everyone in the neighbourhood." the man

A 65-year-old man who lives in the same building with the couple also expressed sorrow at the woman's death. "The woman was very kind and a helpful neighbour to everyone," the man told the Jordan

The victim left three girls, a four-year-old, a two-year-old, and a nine-month-old,

The girls are staying with their grandparents for the time being, until police finished investigation the case. and my daughter is volunteering to take care of her children if oo one does," the neighbour

Zarqa police seize squggled cigarettes '

Zarqa police Tuesday was able to thwart the smuggling attempt of a truck driver. Five hundred and thirtcen cartons of cigarettes were seized by police from under potato bags,

according to police report. The report indicates that the truck driver, who was not identified, bit another car while driving on the Amman-Zarga highway. Police became suspicious when the truck driver did not stop. They tried to pul him over, but the driver fled. Police chased him, and arrested him. When they searched the truck, they discovered the cigarettes. The report did not indicate

the destination or source of the seized cigarettes how long the chase took. 10-year-old run over by

pick-up A I0-year-old Irbid boy was killed Monday after being run over by a pick-up, according to police report.

Ali A. A. was playing in the street when he was struck by a pick-up driven by a 40-year-old man. The boy died instantaneously. Traffic officials have taken the driver into custody and

attributed the accident to

negligence on the driver's part ...

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS Art exhibition by Ibrahim Al Abdall at the Orfali Art

☆ Photo exhibition by artist Muwaffaq Al Sheikh at the Royal

Culturai Centre. ☆ Art exhibition by artist Sadik Kwaish entitled "Talisma" at

Baladna Art Gallery. * Exhibition on the 100th anniversary of the death of French novelist Guy De Manpassant at the French Cultural Centre.

Exhibition of Iraqi books at the Royal Cultural Centre. * Exhibition "Prints and Drawings of Fakhrelnissa Zeid" (1915-1991) until the 15th of January '94 at Darat al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation. Also showing the "Permanent" Exhibition. (Tel. 643251/2).

* Drama for children entitled "The Question" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

SPORTS ROUND-UP

A one-hour programme featuring a condensation of the most popular games of the week with play-by-play announcement at the American Center at 5:00 p.m.

POETRY RECITAL

Poetry recital by poet Ali Al Ameri at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture at 7:00 p.m.

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Union they deserve

SHOULD 52,000 government teachers be allowed to form a union that would regulate and promote their profession and protect their rights?

The Lower House of Parliament is determined to see a union established, the government is not happy and the Senate is undecided.

The matter has been under consideration now for three years. It originated at the Lower House when deputies asked the government to submit a law enacting the establishment of an association for teachers. The government obliged, according to the Constitution, hut it did so only grudgingly because it apprarently feared that the association would be exploited by political parties. While the government wrote the draft law it forwarded a petition to the Higher Council for the interpretation of the Constitution asking it to rule whether the establishment of the proposed union was constitutional or otherwise. The Council (made up of the Senate speaker, three senators and five senior indges) deliberated the issue but failed to reach a decision. The panel of nine was split, five against and four for, only one vote short of rejecting the union in accordance with the Constitution.

Meanwhile the draft law itself had been passed hy the Lower House and forwarded to the Senate,

Since the government of Dr. Abdul Salam Majali, like all its predecessors, continues to be reluctant to accept the eventuality of a union. It therefore wrote once more to the Senate speaker urging the Higher Council to look into the matter.

The Higher Council will now have to consider the matter once more and this time it must feel that it should take more time in discussing all the pros and cons of establishing it. But apart from the relevent articles of the Constitution, the Higher Council should take into consideration three factors. First is the fact that a teachers' union was in fact established in the 1950s, which means the step is not unconstitutional. It must be recalled that that union was dismantled in those days after the Baathists controlled it and used it as a political tool, which explains the fear now that the Islamists might repeat the Baathist experiment but in different ways. Second is the very important factor that most of the country's 52,000 teachers are eager to have a union to use for furthering their rights and their profession. The third and most important factor that the distinguished judicial panel should consider is that democracy and human rights depend to a great extent on the people's right to associate and form societies that serve and protect their interests. Since our teachers, entrusted as they are anyway with the sacred task of educating our children and thus shaping our future, are one of the most neglected segment of the society, they, more than any other professionals, need to have rights addressed. If it is a union that they want, let us help them form one.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

COMMENTING ON a visit by a U.S. congressional team to Lebanon to help locate missing Israeli troops since the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, Al Ra'i Arabic daily said one can only look at such practice with contempt and condemnation. The U.S., which possesses vast military and economic power, employs it only in the service of Israel and in ways for killing or helping Israel kill people, said the daily. The U.S. practices, which tend to starve the Iraqis and cause continued sufferings for the Palestinians, take a different nature when the case is connected with Israel whic: has enjoyed total U.S. support for its atrocities over the past four decades, continued the daily. Never has the U.S. sent a congressional team to look for the displaced Palestinians so as to give them shelter, nor has a U.E senator ever visited the region to call for an end to the Israe. crimes or to demand that the starving people of Iraq receive food and medicine, said the paper. Nor even did any congress anal team ever come to the region to search for the victims of the U.S. ship Liberty which was sunk by the Israelis, it added. We realise that the U.S. policy does not adhere to the minimum level of ethics nor does it give any meaning or appreciation to any values or principles, but for Washington to send a U.S. congressional team to look for the remains of Israelis missing in Lebanon, where Israel launched aggression, is: tnething despicable, manifesting a total collapse of morals in America, said the paper. The team's visit to Lebanon is a show of cheap political hypocrisy at a time when these congressmen have pressing issues like Yugoslavia, the Palestiman, and the starving Iraqis to deal with, added the daily. While fescribing the team's visit as a deplorable act, the paper said it is really regretiable to see the superpower degraded to

COMI SENTING ON the resumption of the Palestinian-Israeli negotistions in Taba, Al Dustour said that the world is in for some n ore Israeli procrasmations and delays and stalling that would had to nothing. Israel seems to be determined to render its deal with the Palestinians meaningless and exhaust the orts of the Palestinians and the other Arabs, hoping to force then, a procept Israel's conditions, said the paper. This is clear from Isi. "fficials' statements in which they predicted that the agenca is talks would last months, it said.

Strobe Talbott and the new Clinton foreign policy team

By Dr. James Zogby

Despite setbacks in some areas of foreign policy, the Clinton administration maintains that its successes in dealing with Russia, Japan and on North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) far outweigh the difficulties encountered in Somalia, Bosnia and

Each of these three hot spots were inherited from the Bush administracion. According to the Clinton administration, while each is a profoundly disturbing tragedy, none has an easy solution or is a great enough threat to the vital interests of the U.S. to warrant deeper American involvement. Nor, the White House argues, should they be viewed as measures of the successes or failures of Clinton's foreign poli-

cy.

Bot while the president's overall public approval is on the ascent, including the pub-lie's approval of his handling of foreign policy, the administra-tion is concerned that its foreign policy team is not doing a good enough job at explaining the president's policy to the general public or to Congress. There were also some long standing concerns over the foreign policy team's difficulties in pitching Mr. Clinton's successes to the press.

It was therefore, out of a desire to improve the effectiveness of the foreign policy team - particularly in its dealings with Congress and the media - that the administration began to make changes in its composition and character over the past few months.

The first such change involved giving Vice President Al Gore a more visible foreign policy role. Mr. Gore is wellrespected by his former colleagues in Congress and his intellect and thoughtfulness inspire confidence in the press and public alike. Thus, it was not surprising that the president would turn to the vice president for help.

The foreign policy experience of most vice presidents is limited to representing their presidents at the funerals of foreign dignitaries. But already, in the first year of the Clinton administration. Mr.: Gore bas made major internate tional visits to Russia and Mex-,, ico, and has been called upon to host the only two "state dinners" of this Administration (one for President Mubarak of Egypt and one for Prime Minister Rabin of Israel). Mr.

Gore's involvement in foreign policy included his leadership role in the NAFTA debate, and his launchiog of the "Builders for Peace" initiative designed to secure U.S. private sector investment in the eco-. nomy of the West Bank and

The next change in the Clinton foreign policy team was the resignation of Secretary of Defence Les Aspin and his replacement by retired Admiral Bobby Ray Inman, Mr. Aspin had been criticised by both the military establishment and some of his former colleagues in Congress for his handling of the situations in Haiti and Somalia. The administration hopes that the Inman appointment will restore both congressional and Pentagon confi-

Mr. Inman is a long rime veteran of the U.S. military and intelligence establishments, and served as Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency under President Reagan, and also enjoyed a senior post in the Carter administration. Since leaving government he has established a fairly strong record as a husiness executive and his choice was universally hailed by in the press and by the Congress. And although some of his business dealings have aroused some slight controversy upon closer inspection, he is expected to have an easy time during his confirmation hearing scheduled for later this

Yet Perhaps the most interesting change in the Clinton foreign policy team is the most recent one. Clifton Wharton, the Deputy Secretary of State who resigned at the end of 1993, was not replaced until this past week by Ambassador at-large Strobe Talbott. Mr. Wharton, a husinessman by training, was installed at the number two post at the State Department in order to play a managerial role. But as criticisms mounted, the administration felt that it needed to make a change and went looking for a new deputy secretary of state who would enjoy greater visibility, one who could bring policy and communications ex-

administration's foreign policy work. He will be asked to testify before Congress and conduct major news briefings - in short, his task will be to improve the image and public understanding of the State De-

The fact that Ambassador Talbott was a roommate of President Clinton in 1968 (when the two were Rhodes scholars at Oxford, England), has been a close friend of the ptesident's for 25 years and has been Mr. Clinton's closest foreign policy adviser are all important factors that will help to determine his success in this challenging position. But his professional experience will

also come into play. Mr. Talbott is a journalist by profession, and, like President Clinton, he graduated from Yale and studied at Oxford. He served for many years as correspondent for Time magazine, becoming the magazine's Washington bureau chief in 1985 and served as editor-atlarge for the magazine from 1989 under 1993.

close ties to the White House and will be more able than Mt. Christopher to focus President Clinton's attention on important foreign policy issues.

Contrary to many press accounts, however, Secretary Christopher is still in charge at the State Department, Mr. Talbott's presence will free him to do the things he does best, particularly the kind of policy analysis and negotiating which won him praise during his tenure at the State Department during the Carter admi-nistration. With Mr. Talbott as his deputy, Mr. Christopher is expected to significantly reduce his media contacts over ome, allowing his more media savvy number two to handle that task, So Mr. Christopher does not seem to be on his way out of the department - on the contrary, he simply made

"While the president's overall public approval is on the ascent, including the public's approval of his handling of foreign policy, the administration is concerned that its foreign policy team is not doing a good enough job at explaining the president's policy to the general public or to Congress.

In April 1993 President Clin-ton appointed Mr. Talbott as his amhassador-at-large and special advisor on the former Soviet Republics. He was wellprepared for the job, being the author of five books dealing with the Soviet Union and the translator of Nikita Kruschev's memoirs. But out of necessity. he expanded his expertise beyond Russian affairs during the five years he served as Time's Washington bureau

Mr. Talbott is credited with maintaining firm U.S. support for Russian President Yeltsin, a policy which won praise from many quarters, even from those who disagreed it. What impressed most observers was the consistency of policy, towards Russia given the wavering policies towards Bosnia, Somalia and Haiti.

Yet, in choosing Mr. Talbott as his chief deputy, Secretary of State Warren Christopher, perience to the position.

As his chief deputy, Secretary

Mr. Talbort's job will be to of State Warren Christopher

win greater support for the put more than simple someone who would appease some of the critics of his handling of foreign policy. Mr. Talbott. because of his many years as a journalist, is a highly skilled commonicator who, perhaps more importantly, has very

the decision that any smart manager makes when he needs help: he went out and got it.

In order to really understand the tools he brings to the job and the viewpoint he employs. it is perhaps best to examine Mr. Talbott's long paper trail as a writer and editor at Time magazine. He has consistently advocated an activist, interventionist foreign policy, in which the U.S. would lead multilateral initiatives under the auspices of international organisations. As he phrases it, "there is a nobility and tremendous political force in the claim that American power is an instrument of universal values as well as national interests. Throughout this century that idea has helped rally other countries wheo U.S. presidents have called."

Mr. Talbott believes that the U.S. must increase its overall Jevels of foreign aid if it is to maintain its international leadership position. "It won't be possible to remain a superpow-ler on the cheap," he wrote. "If the U.S. lets other countries control the purse strings of international development, the reios of leadership will inevitahly also pass into other

hands." However, he urged the U.S. to place "concerted pressure on pro-western members of OPEC, to recycle more of their petrodollars and petroyen through the multilateral institutions. The Saudis share the responsibility of major industrialised countries to help" developing countries, in his

During the cold war, Mr. Talbott accepted most of the underlying assumptions of the U.S. policy of containment. He felt that the U.S. had to maintain military party with the Soviet Union in order to deter Soviet aggression.

However, in the 1980s he left the mainstream when he argued for drawing a clear line between containing the Soviets and alienating Third World nations sympathetic to them. He wrote: "The current tendency in the U.S. is to see the developing world as a playground for communism and as essentially inhospitable to the West risks becoming a self-fulfilling delusion." He recommended courting developing countries close to the Soviet Union, such as Afghanistan, Angola, Cuba and Vietnam, in the hopes that they would adopt more prowestern positions.

In late 1991, before the American media had focused on the war in the former Yugoslavia, Mr. Talbott condemned Serbian aggression and criticised NATO for not responding to it. He urged the western allies to consider military intervention and drew an analogy to the Gulf war, pointing out that Iraq responded only to military force and not sanctions. The strength with which he advocated this position is evident in his quote: "If the western alliance can't cope with the crisis in Yugoslavia, it (the western alliance) doesn't deserve to survive the end of the cold war."

Mr. Talbott's most extensive writings on the Middle East came during the cold war. He generally supported Mr. Bush's policies, hoping that the broad-based anti-Iraq alliance would lead to more multilateral peace initiatives and the strengthening of international organisations, ultimately leading to a new world order. He opposed the notion that the U.S. should attempt to overthrow Saddam Hussein militarily, and hoped that post-war sanctions would lead the Iraqi people to overthrow Saddam Hussein themselves.

The Gulf war also marked Mr. Talbott's first attempts to analyse Middle Eastern society and politics outside of the context of the Israeli-Arab conflict. Like many other westerners, he has been extremely critical of Arab society and Arab governments. But prior to the Gulf war he bad written extensively about the Israeli-Arab conflict.

He bas consistently supported the "special relationship" between Israel and the U.S. In a 1981 essay emitled "What to do About Israel," Mr. Talbott wrote; "The wisdom of the U.S.'s sponsorship of Israel has been vindicated many times in many ways." But he explored the relationship in depth and in the same essay wrote: "It is high time for the U.S. to engage Israel in a debate over the fundamental nature of their relationship. If that means interfering in internal Israeli politics, then so be it. Israel has been intervening skillfully and successfully in U.S. pob-ocs for decades."

He also questioned whether the American-Israeli relanonship is in the best interests of the U.S. well before it was politically safe to ask such a question, writing: "Israel is well on its way to becoming not just a dobious asset but an outright liability to American security interests, both in the Middle East and worldwide." Mr. Talbott saw that U.S. Israeli cooperation has got in the way of building the very international coalitions be was so in favour of, writing that this relationship "has impeded American efforts to coordinated diplomacy with the European Community, and it bas complicated U.S., relations with most Third World countries, and virtually all Islamic

Mr. Talbott also has argued for some time against the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, and has written in favour of the creation of an autonomous region linked to Jordan. During the 1980's he criticised the intransigence of Menachem Begin and the Likud Party and urged the Reagan administration to pressore Israel to engage in a meaningful peace process. He was also critical of the high levels of military aid to Israel during this period. After watching for several years that refusal of the Reagan administration to stand up to Mi Begin, he wrote: "The U.S. is obligated to do everything in its power to thwart Begin's annexation of the West Bank."

Russia not the only obstacle to expanded NATO By Carol Giacomo them are remotely

Reoter

BRUSSELS - Concern to avoid upsetting Russia is only one reason why NATO is not yet prepared to extend formal membership to the ex-communist countries of East Europe, officials and diplo-

mats say. NATO also wonders wbether the alliance's current members could commit themselves to defending the borders of East European countries and whether the armed forces of former Warsaw Pact nations are ready for integration with those of the West.

Expansion might also weaken NATO's cohesion and its ability to take political decisions. The alliance already has trouble in reaching a consensus among its current 16 members.

NATO leaders at their summit in Brussels on Monday and Tuesday will, therefore, not offer security guarantees or membership to East European countries that badly want

The argument has concentrated on fears that expanding NATO into Eastern Europe would upset Russia, provoking an extreme nationalist hacklash that could ruio Moscow's

Bot NATO diplomats also cite political reasons, concerns about NATO's internal cohesion and effectiveness and a western view that the military structures of countries like Poland and Hungary are not yet ready for integration with the

National legislatures in all 16 NATO countries would have to vote to admit new members. Under NATO's treaty,

member states must regard an attack on one of them as an attack on the entire alliance a "one-for-all_ all-for-one" philosophy binding all to the defence of each.

The political question is straightforward: Are NATO states prepared to defend people and borders beyond NATO's rement boundaries such as those of Polaod, Romania or Albania - with the lives of their young soldiers?

Iodications are that none of

such a commitment, especially in view of fears that Eastern Europe could see more Yugoslavia-style conflicts.

Many NATO countries, including the United States, have become more inward-looking with the end of the cold war. They no longer fear a nucleararmed Soviet empire and many do not see regional disputes as threatening their national io-

Public opinion and a dread of heavy casualties among alliance troops have kept NATO from any meaningful role io ending the Bosnian civil war. For many, this has under-mined NATO's aspiration for a new post-cold war role.

Although U.S. President Bill Clinton renewed Washington's commitment to European Security on Sunday, Secretary of State Warren Christopher has often stressed that in 1994 the Uoited States will not be diverted by "regional prob-lems" like Bosnia as it was last

Mr. Christopher is also fond of noting that NATO is not a "social club" but a solemn grouping with solemn responsi-bilities that cannot be under-

taken lightly. Even if Mr. Clinton and other NATO leaders believe the alliance should take on new members at this time, it is goestiooable whether they would choose to expend the political capital necessary to persuade their electorates to

go along. Mr. Clinton has already endured tough battles with Congress on the budget and on trade and is facing what could be an even more brutal fight over health care reform.

Natalie Goldring of the British-American Security Information Council said western countries could probably not win legislative approval for an expanded alliance, Many officials and analysts

say former Warsaw Pact countries are not ready for integration into the western alliance since they have little extra cash to upgrade their largely outdated Soviet-style equipment and the West has too many economic troubles

Bosnian fighting suggests guns not peacemakers will rule

By Maud S. Beelman The Associated Press

ZAGREB, Croatia - The Serb bombardment of Sarajevo and the government offensive against Croats in central Bosnia bode ill for settlement of a war that has claimed more than 200,000 lives and made more than 2 million pcople homeless.

Neither peace negotiations in Geneva on Jan. 18 nor talk of outside intervention at this week's NATO summit is likely to quiet the guns.

Fighting usually intensifies before peace talks as each side - Serb, Croat and the Muslim-led government — seeks to improve its negotiating posi-

But even by Bosnian standards, the recent shelling of Sarajevo has been intense, Meanwhile, government forces are racking up battlefield suc-cesses to the West.

There are many reasons for the surge in fighting, all point to continued war.

The government has reiected previous peace plans, saying the territory offered is insufficient. Feeling shan-doned, the Bosnians have decided to go for broke, seizing as much land as possible before serious negotiations, The main target has been the

Croats of central Bosnia, Several villages and towns have been taken. Early Sunday. Bosniao forces cut the main road linking two ends of the major Croat enclave of

Control of the Lasva Valley, where Vitez is located, would dramatically increase the government's hold on a swath of central Bosnia. The area would extend 120 kms from near Gornji Vakuf, southwest of the valley, to Tuzla in the north-

Vitez also has a major weapons factory --- something the Bosnians, handicapped by an international arms embargo, desperately need.

The government also had a rare success against the betterarmed Serbs in late December, M. KAHIL

when a Serb offensive northeast of Sarajevo failed.

Sources said that Bosnian Serb commander, Gen. Ratko Mladic, dispatched inexperienced troops on the failed mission. Casualties were reportedly high, though no figures were

The Serbs are now bringing in reinforcements, including profess anal soldiers from neighbouring Yugoslavia, in the campaign to link Serb forces in the north and south and isolate Tuzia. U.N. sources acknowledge

the increased Yugoslav army presence in Bosnia, but - as with the presence of soldiers from neighbouring Croatia have chosen not to make it an

Bosnian government forces also have engaged the Serbs in a Sarajevo neighbourhood just a few hundred yards from the city's maio thoroughfare.

That Bosnian offensive apparently fueled last week's Serb shelling.

The bombardment of Bosnia's battered capital is intended to pressure the Bosnian government into accepting a peace deal.

Pummeling the Bosnians into a deal reduces the chances of having to make territorial concessions — an issue split-ting the Bosnian Serb tead-

A peace agreement also in-creases the likelihood that sanctions on economically ravaged Yugoslavia, the Serb's close ally, could be lifted.

"For the moment, there is much too much talk of continuing the fightiog." nego-tiator Lord David Oweo szid last week, questioning the point of holding peace talks. There isn't any... firm evidence of the will to settle."

Enmity between Lord Owen and the Bosnian leadership, which sees him as pro-Serb and has called for his resignation, means no one is trusted at the

talks, The increased fighting has fueled frustration within U.N. ranks and reportedly prompted Gen. Jean Cot, commander in former Yugoslavia, to ask for the right to call air strikes. His commander in Bosnia, Lt. Gen. Francis Briquemont, is resigning early after criticising U.N. strategy.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali opposes the use of air power. France, with the largest U.N. contingent in Bosnia, pushed the war on to NATO's agenda. But no new initiatives are expected, and Bosnia barely figured in President Clinton's speech Sunday in Brussels on the future of

Europe Talking to the Associated Press last November, Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic hinted at Bosnian strategy.

There is only one rule. which is the rule of force. The rule of law is only for someone else, but not for Bosnia," Mr. Silajdzie said. "That's why there are no diplomatic break-

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Russians of Far East look to future with optimism

By Paula Sands

remel ANCHORAGE. USA y and while western Russia flour-Prio lers in the midst of civil unrest nte didespread corruption and Istaej, witched economic reform, the ast eastern region often hought of as frozen waste is rela king it its way, protected from he turmoil by its remoteness. Pioneers like those who amed the American West are tarting to make their mark. gliped by a hounty of natural esources -- oil and gold in sirticular. From across the man strictuar. From across the america's own version of abena, a helping hand is ex-

The American Russian Cenre (ARC) at the University of alaska, Anchorage, has its fin-Israel er on the pulse of small husiies in the Russian Far East Siberia). It will promote small jusiness and other private and ublic institutional developnent, and will also provide hether nformation on the husiness tela invironment and investment derest prortunities to American if an usinesses. The ARC director. such Tharles B. Neff. says ARC is ael g apported by a \$2.15 million ing not grant from the U.S. Agency nul a or International Develop-

ended.

terica nent. in the At this point, most of the sings that are going on in the ar East are within the Russian apulation." Mr. Neff exained in a recent interview. U.S. efforts, in a sense, are peded ast getting started. There are eace Corps volunteers - all ave MBAs and are experts on ranking — primarily in Vladi-ostok and Khaharovsk. The U.S. Department of Commerce has an office in Vladivostok, with a branch in Khaharovsk, "A combination of Department of Commerce and Peace Corps efforts focusing on hanking and commerce is pretty strong in those two large cities in the southern pair of the Far East,"

There are also a number of scattered American husiness ventures, says Mr. Neff, "We know of several here in Alaska. One, for instance, involved a joint venture with gold min-ing near Khaharovsk, There are others that deal with joint sentures with botels, one probahly going into Magadan." Another venture concerned the marketing of reindeer horns. which are a highly prized commodity in Asia, particularly in Korea. This ran into problems. hut according to the Alaska governor's office, the number of husinesses going to the Russian Far East and succeeding is greater than the number that have had publicised difficul-

Nevertheless, Mr. Neff says husiness development is at the heginning stage. Among other things, there is a certain wait-and-see attitude ahout what is going to happen with concession rights for what is called the 4MS companies -Marathon, which is U.S.hased: McDermit, which is-British: Mitsui and Mitsuhishi. which represent Japan: and Shell, which is Royal Dutch

This consortium will undertake oil and natural gas exploration off the shore of Sakhalin Island, "All the technical studies are approved so his the long-term development

the whole issue is management and profit-sharing thereafter," Mr. Neff explained. The stumbling block for a venture of this size is Moscow, "Each

time there is a change of a commission or a minister or another group in Moseow, they may throw out all the agreements. They (local leaders in Siheria) are really waiting for enough stability in Moscow to give the go-ahead on the exploration. Everything is set except the degree to which they are going to share in the profits. If that one goes through, it'll be a signal that will prubably attract a good deal more commercial interest into the Far East." Meanwhile, ventures are also being undertaken by the Japanese. Koreans and South Africans.

Mr. Neff says the political and commercial infrastructure needed for a husiness community to thrive is growing. One of the things we are doing with our project is opening two small husiness development centres." The directors of the two centres left for the island of Sakhalin, to Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk and for Yakutsk in September.

Those are the first of what we expect will be a half dozen small husiness development centres that will be located in all the major population centres of the Russian Far East." Mr. Neff said. Asked how the recent unrest in Russia will affect his project, he said. Our attitude is that in the absence of anything that is really an overt catastrophe or

chaos, we are going ahead be-

cause what we are working on

of the small-business infrastructure, which is necessary for ultimate compmic health,"

ARC also has the capability of hringing targeted, shortterm technical assistance. "One of our first projects is a collaborative one with banks in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest." Mr. Neff said. "We will offer a series of training sessions with porticular Russian hanks to help them understand and hetter carry out international transactions. The bank-ing picture is very confused hecause there are some... legitimate hanks but there are an unaccountable number of small ventures where people literally go into a storefront. open up and say 1'm a bank' and start dealing in money."

Mr. Neff says this is a totally unregulated situation, "Little hy little, through our efforts and others like it, we hope that there will be some regularisation of processes that will make it possible for husinesses to predict outcomes, making investment attractive."

There is a sense of energy and change everywhere, says Mr. Neff. The economy is like a bazaar economy. It's quite eastern. Lots of training. Lots of movement of small commodities. Businesses open and close... They have an open market... This whole process has already lasted about five years, and I think the movement is very definitely towards the development of mure private enter-

prise and more regionalism." "The problem right now is that the old structures have not yet been replaced by new ones. It is very difficult to find out

who's in charge." Lack of centralisation favours the quick operator because there are no rules or regulations. Mr. Neff explained. "That includes a lot of people that we would consider the criminal element. They're profiting in the short run hut in the long run it's breaking down the old sys-

"I wouldn't hazard a guess in terms of months or years how long it is going to take" for normal economic structures to be put in place. "I think with a combination of foreign aid packages and some of the necessary changes that are going to occur in Moscow -again, those who say they can predict it are probably deluding themselves - something will emerge. That deadlock is either going to produce chaos or it's going to produce some increase of weight on one side or the other."

tem." which is positive.

The next stage. Mr. Neff believes, is going to be a more overt kind of hargaining between Moscow and the regions as to who is going to make economic decisions. "Once that gets settled, I think rules will come in that will tend to isolate same of the people who are making quick deals."

The new system will definitely he an amalgam of communism and free enterprise. Mr. Neff says. "I think they will always have a tendency towards more centralisation whether it's centralisation in a city or in a region or centralisation nationally — than we generally feel comfortable with in the U.S ... But I think it's

going to he a lot less of an official central system than they had under communism." Mr. Neff is travelling to Mos-

cow in November. He explained that he wilt meet with various people, including some potential partners in husiness training activity who are Moscow-hased, I think they need to get out and work more in a national setting."

Promoting small husiness is a new concept in Russia, Mr. Neff says. "It has always had individual entrepreneurs. usually of an unofficial nature. Now they are out in the open. The notion of a small husiness that is not a controlled part of a huge enterprise is a departure. Except for the people who ran their private (agricultural) plots... there haven't heen a lot of these small entrepreneurs providing small services to cities or running regional manufacturing or regional supply kinds of companies."

The idea has the support of all the Russians Mr. Neff has met, including the amhassador to the U.S. who was in Alaska in September and who agreed that most successful economies worldwide are hased in large part on healthy small husinesses.

The ARC centres will he offering courses for people who are already owners of small husinesses or who wish to establish them. "That is something that is teally new territory." Mr. Neff said. "We are not sure how many people there are of that kind. Part of what we will be doing is beating the hushes, getting them in and providing practical orientation support systems similar to what small husiness development centres do in the

Mr. Neff says ARC has

adapted materials from small development centres and other sources that have - "in what is pretty uniquely an American fashion" - linked educational institutions directly with practitioners in the field. "That's where the U.S. agricultural extension service came about." he explained. "We take that for granted, but no other educational system has got it. At the same time, our Russian partners - and we are partners with Russian educational institutions — want to develop a better academic programme to do management training. We fully support that." Mr. Neff says ARC will help establish these programmes and

As part of the ARC grant. up to 50 Russians from the Far East will be brought to Alaska for a combination of classroom training and internships with Alaskan husinesses. And as ARC identifies the needs of particular sectors or husinesses it has already begun working with hankers - it will locate Americans with particular skills and arrange to get them to the Far East for a period of time to help the Russians in those areas.

teach some of the courses.

The other thing that we'll be doing is collecting information that we will make available both to the Russians and Americans," Mr. Neff said. We hope to create linkages hetween American husinesses and Russians interested in doing husiness with us, thereby creating joint ventures."

Mr. Neff says it is far from incidental that Alaska is involved with the Russian For East. "On this particular uctivitv. Alaska will be much more involved than other parts of the U.S., although we are not drawing the line at Alaska. I imagine that we will do a numher of things in partnership. particularly with people in the Pacific Northwest; hut Alaska. partly because of its proximity and its historical connections... is really seen by the Russians as vital.

Even Mr. Neff is surprised ut the degree to which Russiums of the Far East relate to Aluska. They know of it. They sense its proximity. Beyond that, there are ohvious parallels in the makeup of the land geographically, the climate. the resources, the relation of native groups to the society as a whole, the combination of population centres... and the large, undernopulated areas around them... When they think of the kind of assistance they need to get their economy in shape, they quite logically say 'we are more likely to find practical answers that we can apply in Alaska than we will in.

say, Mohile, Alahama'.

There are going to be ups and downs. Mr. Neff said. There are going to be crises. It's parily a matter of just enlightened self-interest and guesswork to conclude that it's the long-term development that needs to be the primary focus." He speaks Russian, has travelled several times to the former Soviet Union, and expects to visit three or four times a vear in connection with the ARC project. Mr. Neff has, held academic and administrative positions at the universities of Hawaii and Wisconsin and at the State University of New York. He holds a graduate degree in international relations from Yale - World

Draft budget under fire

Progress reported in Taba talks

(Continued from page 1) s will redress the situation.

St the

· West

The majority of the deputies linked who took the floor Wednesday 1987; indicated they would vote in favour of the budget, but still tid the showered the government with on 10 Al Zu'hi (Ramtha) said are e in a raised by voters.

SS. He The demands ranged form hie roads and telephone links in Israel small villages to better health a After services, more - educational Mr country's cities and towns.

Calls for supporting the ing m armed and security forces were also made by many deputies during the session, which lasted for four and a half

> The majority of deputies also indicated support for the

ericho." Palestinian spokes-

nan Hassan Asfour said. "We

ue demanding that certain positions in the region be

mder Palestinian control, such

is religious sites, access to the

Dead Sea, private land and

areas inhabited by Palesti-

Israel Radio reported that a

130 million fence around the

Gaza Strip would be com-

Israel is building a 64-

ilometre security fence with

an electronic alert system and

high-tech entry and exit points.

Work has also begun to pre-

are for the army's withdrawal

com Jericho, the radio said. but did not specify what. Troops would pull back to Mul

Meyo, a few kilometres south-

A 17-kilometre stretch of

road is under construction

around Jericho running alongside the Jordan River to link army positions and Jewish set-

The Israeli delegation ar-

rived at the Hilton with numer-

ons map cases. Israeli sources

said the Palestinians were

shown sketches of internation-

al border crossings to the

autonomous zones, with an equal presence of Israelis and

Israel Radio said the Palestimans "were satisfied" by the

Also Tuesday, a Palestinian

Official told the Associated

Press that the PLO and Israel

have reached agreement on

releasing Palestinian prisoners

from Israeli jails. Such releases

could start as early as next

The release of Palestinian

In a letter to prisoners, the

PLO said Israel has agreed to

free 3,500 prisoners "on the

day" an autonomy plan is

signed. The remaining prison-

ers would be freed by July 13.

But Rabin spokesman Oded

Ben Ami said, "I know no-

thing about any agreement of that kind. Releasing prisoners

prisoners has been a key

week, said the official.

Palestinian demand.

the letter said.

tast of the town.

Ľŀ.

offer.

pleted by April 1995.

overall premise of the government's economic policy, praising its achievements in reducing foreign debts and curbing inflation.

But most deputies demanded that financial and investment laws be modernised in order to accelerate economic growth and lure more investments

More than 40 deputies have so far requested to address the House during its deliberations, is the facilities, and more economical of the draft budget, with the mine investments and jobs in their number expected to increase before the House ends its second marathon session since it convened on Nov. 23. The first was when it held a vote of confidence session on the gov-

The House will resume its debate of the draft budget Wednesday.

is one of the issues on the

agenda for negotiations be-

tween us and the Palestinians."

Haaretz and Yediot Ahronot

quoted army officials as saying

Israel was preparing a plan for

a phased release of more than

3.000 Palestinians.

The Israeli daily newspapers

Chamber music 'with a difference' at the RCC

By Jean-Claude Elias Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Classical chamber music with a difference that is what Patricia Carter on piano and Julie Carter on flute will propose to their audience on Wadnesday evening, Dec. 12, 1994, at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) in Amman The concerts presented by the National Music Conservatory (NMC): Noor Al Hussein Foundation, will also feature NMC faculty members Mohammad Ali Ahhas on viola and Ali Hussein Musa on

Patricia Carter, the mother and Julie Carter, and thedaughter have selected a programme spanning not only three centuries (eighteenth to twentieth) but also several countries. Works by Franz Schuhert, Frederic Chopin, Francis Poulenc and Aaron Copland will take the audience respectively to Austria, Po-

land, France and the U.S. The programme includes two Impromptus, a Sonata per arpeggione and an Adagio and Rondo Concertante by Schubet, a Ballade by Chopin. a Sonata for finte and piano by

Poulenc and a Duo flute and piano by Copland.

The new generation of classical performers believes in a better musician-audience communication. No walls should be raised between them. Music must be less formal and more human, accessible. Patricia Carter takes this theory one step further, putting it into application. The listeners are invited to truly participate iu the performance. Not by clapping their hands or waving candles, a gimmickry exclusively reserved to pop concerts, but by trying to sincerely analyse their feelings, emo-tions and thoughts while listening to the music, and then write it down on the programme that can be returned to the theatre lobby at the end of the

Mrs. Carter has performed in several countries, including Egypt, China, India, Sweden and others. She has already played two times in Jordan. The participation in the event of the two musicians from the NMC orchestra, is considered as a very positive and promising experience, totally in the spirit of the performance. All four artists expressed their enthusiasm at the idea, telling the Jordan Times that the rehearsals have been very satisfac-

Fighting subsides in Kabul

(Continued from page 1) the combatants to rearm and regroup. The ... lasted .. about 48-hours, giving thousands of Kabul residents a window to flee, until it broke Monday

morning.
The Shoora-e-Nazar forces of Mr. Rahbani's lieutenant, former Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Masoud, maintained their tight hold on the airport, and there were occa-sional artillery duels to the

Except for the capture of the airport by Mr. Masoud, the embattled capital appeared to have reverted to the positions

which existed before fighting broke out, observers said. A main mosque in the city centre, hit during earlier artillery duels, lay badly scarred with a big hole in its dome and

the interior eaten away by fire. although its walls escaped severe damage. The streets were deserted

and hungry dogs and cats were seen prowling for food. In the northern areas.

thronged by the displaced Afghans, people moved about in Khair Khana, Taimani and Shahrae Nau districts. The walls there had portraits of former president Sibghatullah Mojaddedi and Gen. Dostum.

NATO summit concludes

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Clinton took this invitation to Prague later on Tuesday for a meeting with the leaders of Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia, whose request for immediate NATO membership has been rebuffed.

The scheme is designed to strengthen links with the former Warsaw Pact states, many of them fearful of rising nationalism in Russia, while reassuring Moscow that it will not be shut out of new security arrangements by a second iron curtain.

We all agreed not to isolate Russia," French President Francois Mitterrand said.

Mr. Woerner said the summit had underlined strong ties between Europe and the United States. The Europeans were concerned that the Clinton administration might be switching the main focus of its. foreign policy towards Asia.

To give practical effect to Europe's greater security role, the allies agreed in principle to make available NATO military resources to the Western European Union — the designated future defence arm of the European Union.

A new military planning staff — known in NATO jargon as combined joint task forces — will be dedicated to preparing for such peacekeep-ing or relief operations, which may involve non-NATO

Russians and Americans not so different really

These days the well-known Russian pessimism is being tempered by some pragmatic optimism, says Charles B. Neff of the American Russian Centre at the University of Alaska. "There's no question about it. People say, 'Nothing's happening. People in Moscow are doing the same thing. It doesn't matter who the leaders are. Things are worse than they were. But once they get that said, you notice that what they are doing is going on with life... They ve got food on the table. They look to me better dressed, particularly in a place like Khaharovsk. There is colour. There is a different kind of liveliness in people's steps that has been missing in the last several decades.

Russians, says Mr. Neff, are putting one foot in front of the next and are proceeding to the next thing they need to do to live better lives. "There are some massive issues - of environmental cleanup, of refurbishing cities that are just falling apart. Preventive maintenance on everything is just about nonexistent. There are very large tasks but they will, I think, he addressed as people hegin to see small progress in areas around them.

"People are actually creating something. If that becomes reinforced, there is a tremendous amount of human talent there that I think will come to bear on those problems."

Russians, says Mr. Neff, generally like Americans, "They admire what we have accomplished." Nevertheless, some Russians are getting "a little tired of Americans who go out there and give suggestions and make comparisons and do not stay and help with the hard tasks. They come in and give you a little training and then run away - or offer some kind of get-rich-quick scheme that is dependent upon the Russians coming up with some large amount of capital, which they don't have, or they promise things and don't deliver."

"There have been quick-huck artists just as much as there have heen quick-ruhle artists." Mr. Neff said. "There's a certain scepticism that the unswers that America hrings to the Far East are the best answers." Yet, he says, there is also recognition that America is a place that has answers about how a market operates - and the Russians are interested in

"They are kind of a stuhborn, careful people." Mr. Neff explained. "They don't like - any more than other people do outsiders coming in and telling them exactly how to behave. But they are open-minded." Young Russians are quite similar to young Americans, he added. "They wonder whether their lives are going to be as good as that of their parents... A lot of young Russians are out there hustling, changing, learning English, deciding that they really want to become entrepreneurs" - World News Link.

YEAR

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Foreign regional office in Amman is looking for the following vacancy;

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The Royal Society For The Conservation of Nature - Jordan The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature is the only non-governmental organisation in Jordan responsible for protecting wildfile. It has established an international reputation for its conserva-

In connection with its rapidly expanding work toad, the Society is seeking suitably experienced and/or qualified people to fitt the lollowing vacancies:

I- HEAD OF PUBLIC AWARENESS

A well motivated, enthusiastic person is required to manage and develop the work of the recently formed Public Awareness Section. This section promotes the vital work of the RSCN across all sections of Jordanian Society. Much of the work is concerned with developing educational programmes for schools.

The successful candidate will have qualifications and/or experience in education or interpretation and in the management of people. Good communication skills and a commitment to wildlife conservation are essential. He or she must also speak and write fluent English. II- HEAD OF FUNDRAISING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

This newly created and very important job needs someone with excellent presentation and communication skills to manage and direct a small team of staff involved in all aspects of fundraising, marketing and public relations.

Relevant qualifications and experience in fundraising or marketing are essential. The ability to manage and co-ordinate staff and to speak and write fluently in English are also important. A genuine interest in wildlife conservation will be an advantage.

III- QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT

Candidates should have a degree in accountancy and be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) an ability to speak & write English fluently is For more information contact administration office at:

> Jubieha P.O. Box 6354 Closing date for applications the 20th of January Candidate should bring C.V. and original documents

RSCN Q.H. 2nd floor of Civil Service Consumption/ El-

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{ COMEDAT } JORDAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TRADING CO. ANNOUNCES THE SALE OF THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT: MACHINE TYPE MODEL QTY.

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EXCAVATORS	O&K	RH75 A	4	77-79	
	O&K	RH75 C	i	86	
	O&K	RH40	1	81	
DUMPTRUCKS	PERLINI	DP655	14	77-86	
	PERLIN1	131-33	10	89	
	AVELING BARFORD	RD040	10	81-86	
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PHONE: 642096 / 644096

Report says Asia is biggest cigarette market in the world

accounts for more than half of the world's consumption of cigarettes, even though the average Asian smokes less than half the number of cigarettes per year consumed by his or her European counterpart, a report said here

Some 2,600 billion cigarettes were smoked in Asia in 1992 two-thirds of them in China alone. Demand rose by 13.5 per cent between 1986 and 1991, making Asia and eastern Europe the only areas where demand is rising. British market research group Euromonitor said.

In the European Union, demand per head of population - fell by 3.5 per cent between 1986 and 1991 with Europeans smoking an average of 1.751

North Americans smoked a

population while Asians, on average, smoked 897 and Africans consumped an average of

tobacco market. Euromonitor said demand for tobacco is likely to increase sharply in the region, home to 54 per cent of the world population, but only "as economic conditions im-

Multinational tohacco groups BAT. Philip Morris. Rothmans and R.J. Reynolds are likely to profit from a growing taste for low-tar and filter-tipped cigarettes, which local manufacturers do not now provide, Euromonitor

However, import duties are generally high in the region and outside companies have had difficulty in entering the Chinese market, it added.

GATT could save U.S. consumer \$30b a year, report says

WASHINGTON (AP) - A recently completed global trade accord should save American consumers more than \$30 billion a year, a research group said Tuesday.

The Institute for International Economies estimated that U.S. border taxes, quotas and other barriers to trade cost Americans about \$70 billion a year, an amount equal to more -than one per cent of total U.S. economic output.

However, the institute said this figure should be reduced by \$32.8 billion annually based on the tariffs and other barriers to trade the United States agreed to reduce as part of a global free trade agreement teached among 117 nations in

Geneva on Dec. 15. That agreement, negotiated under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), will, if approved by Congress, reduce border taxes on thousands of products and expand GATT rules for the first time to cover

trade in farm products and services. Various studies have estimated that the GATT agreement bas the potential of in-creasing world output by \$6 trillion over the next decade, a figure that includes a \$1 trillion gain just in the United States.

The institute's report. "measuring the costs of protection in the United States," was the first comprehensive look at gains expected to be realised by U.S. consumers.

American consumers will feel the biggest impact in the area of clothing and textile which the institute

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termed the "Mount Everest of

U.S. trade production." The institute estimated that consumer prices in the clothing area would drop by \$15 billion annually and textile prices would decline by \$2 billion annually with the elimination of quotas and the reduction in tariffs over the next decade representing more than half of all savings.

C. Fred Bergsten, a former assistant treasury secretary during the Carter administration and the head of the institute, said the GATT agreement did not achieve all the reductions in trade barriers that had been hoped.

But he said it still represented a significant achievement that would cut by almost half what consumers must pay in what are essentially hidden

"Some of these trade protections have been on the books for 60 years. That is really outrageous, and we are trying to shed some light on them," Mr. Bergsten said.

protecting such products as frozen orange juice concentrate, ball bearings, rubber footwear and luggage all date back to the Smoot-Hawley tariffs passed in 1930 to protect domestic industries at the start of the Great Depression.

The institute estimated that the reduction of all tariffs in 21 highly protected U.S. indusries might result in a loss of 190,000 blue-collar jobs, with 90 per cent of that job loss occurring in apparel and tex-

to eliminate 6,000 jobs

PITTSBURGH. Pennsylvania (AFP) — Westinghouse an ounced Tuesday it will elimi ate 6,000 jobs over two years, including 3,400 layoffs. as part of a sweeping restruc-

turing plan.

The company said it would take a \$845 million charge against earnings to cover the

cost of the restructuring.

Westinghouse also said it would issue \$500 million in new stock in the first half of 1994 and reduce its annual dividend by 40 cents to 20 cents a share of common stock.

Barclays to cut 3,000 more jobs over next two years

LONDON (AFP) - Barclays. Britain's leading High Street bank, said Monday it is going to cut 3.000 jobs over the next two years to reduce fixed costs and improve profitability.

The latest redundancies will bring to 21,000 the number of jobs losses that Barclays has announced for the five years to

Barclays' head of personnel John Cotton said the group woudl attempt to ensure that all redundancies are voluntary.

By the end of 1993, the bank had cut its staff to 68,500, from a high of 84,500 at the end of 1990.

Gillette to eliminate 2,000 jobs

BOSTON, Massachusetts (AFP) - Gillette Co., a top maker of U.S. consumer goods, announced Monday it will eliminate 2,000 jobs as part of a restructuring prog-

Gillette also announced a one-time after-tax charge of \$164 million (74 cents a share) against fourth quarter earnings to cover the restructuring

The job cuts, which amount to six per cent of the comworkforce, will be car ried out over a two-year period. Gillette said in a statement. They will mainly affect the company's operations out-side the United States.

Gillette's President Alfred Zeien said that before taking the charge, the company posted record earnings and sales in the fourth quarter. Results for the entire year were expected to break records as well.

He said the restructuring should further improve the company's performance, beginning in 1995.

Westinghouse French privatisation to remove 668,000 people from public sector

government's programme for privatisation will remove 668,000 employees and 1,760 companies from the public productive sector if it is carried out fully, the INSEE official statistical institute reported Tues-

In a study based on the sector of French state companies, the biggest in the European Community, at the end of 1992, it also said that state companies had abolished 30,000 jobs in 1992.

The centre-right government which took power under Prime Minister Edouard Balladur from Socialists at the end of March, has announced a programme to privatise most of the main French industrial and financial companies in public ownership. The process is well under way. Before the plan was

announced. state enterprises employed 1.7 million people in 2,750 companies. At the end of 1992 employees in state com-

Uzbekistan,

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan (R)

- The most populous state in

Central Asia, Uzbekistan, and

its oil-rich neighbour Kazakh-

stan have agreed to abolish

trade tariffs and form a com-

mon market up to the 21st

Kazakh President Nursultan

Nazarbayev and his Uzbek

counterpart Islam Karimov

told journalists Monday that goods, services, capital and

labour will move freely be-

tween their countries and eco-

nomic policies will be coordin-

panies accounted for 11.5 per cent of the non-agricultural public sector working at market prices. If all 21 main holding com-

panies listed are privatised, one third of employees in the public sector and two thirds of the companies, will be re-moved from state control. The number of people em-ployed by the public sector would fall from 11.5 per cent to

seven per cent of the sector working on the basis of market prices excluding agricultural activities. If employees working for foreign subsidiaries of stateowned groups are included, privatisation would remove

one million people from the

state's payroll.

After privatisation, the public sector would comprise mainly big public undertakings and some companies in the weapons industry. Of the total number of employees remaining, 75 per cent would work for the EDF and GDF electricity

"In practice, we are going to

abolish all borders between the

two countries," Mr. Nazar-

bayev said.
"I totally agree with Presi-

dent Karimov that Uzbekistan

and Kazakhstan are one na-

tion. We have the same roots,

the same history and the same

Foreign diplomats said the

plans were an attempt to bols-

ter the two nations' economic

muscle after Moscow shunned

them late last year when it

prevented them from adopting

Russia's rouble as their curren-

and gas companies, the coal sector, the SNCF railway network, the RATP transportation service in Paris, and the postal and telecommunications services.

The number of foreign subsidiaries operated by the public sector would fall from 1,000 now to 150.

The change would have the higgest effect in the industrial sector, INSEE said, mentioning particularly the steel, oil, chemical, car, aero and electronic industries. Overall, nine per cent of industrial jobs would be transferred to the private sector.

In the financial sector, the number of people employed by state-controlled companies would fail from nearly 33 per cent to five per cent, most of whom would work for the Bank of France. The insurance sector would become whollyowned by private interests.

INSEE said that France

stood to raise more by far than any other European country

Mr. Nazarbavev said agree-

ments signed Monday meant

that Uzbeks will be able to

participate in auctions of

Kazakh enterprises, and Mr.

Karimov said that the two na-

tions could satisfy most of each

anyone, but according to our

estimates Kazakhstan could

satisfy most of our needs and

Uzbekistan could satisfy most

of the needs of Kazakhstan."

Mr. Karimov told a news con-

ference held jointly with Mr.

"We don't want to scare

other's trade needs.

from privatisation. It did not provide figures but many estimates have put the income from the sale of the 21 companies at 400 billion francs (\$69 hillion).

INSEE said that most of the 43,000 jobs removed from the public sector in 1992 were shed by the Air France airline, the postal service, the Renault car company and the Bull computer manufacturer which together shed 30,000 people.

A further 26,000 jobs left the public sector, although not all of these were abolished since some were transferred to the private sector, and the public sector acquired 13,000 people through takeovers. The net reduction of 43,000

people was as much as in the whole of the period from 1988 French Budget Minister

Nicolas Sarkozy said Monday that France had no alternative to its current economic policy if it were to contain the cost of social policies.

Kazakhstan form economic union

"This agreement means the free movement of goods, services, capital and labour and a coordination of policies on credit, repayment, budget, taxation, price-fixing, customs and monetary policies." Mr. Kari-

He said trade tariffs and customs will be abolished from February and an intergovernment standing committee will push through a wider economic union from 1994 un-

African leaders approve Air Afrique rescue plan

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DAKAR (R) - Leaders of 11 African countries Monday approved a rescue plan for their loss-making cooperative airline. Air Afrique, and re-confirmed Yves Roland. Billecart, a Frenchman, in his post as chairman. Senegal's Air Transport

Minister Tijane Sylla said the summit had approved Mr. Roland-Billecart's proposal for a \$61 million cash injection.

"The most important question was the mobilisation of finance to permit recapitalisation and to adopt the recovery olan," he told reporters as he left the meeting in the Senegalese capital.
Mr. Roland-Billecart said

Friday he had won pledges of capital subscriptions of \$8.5 million from the French development bank, the Caisse Française de Developpement, \$8.5 million from the West African Development Bank, and a further \$15 million longterm loan from the French government.

An air Afrique statement said his plan also included \$1.7 million contributions from each of the member states, a \$5.0 million share offer to airline staff and a further \$5.3 million flotation to private in-A spokesman at the com-

pany's Ivory Coast headquarters said last week that Mr. Roland-Billecart's future as chairman could also be on the

Nigeria abandons market reforms, fixes exchange rate

fate." he added.

ABUJA (R) — Nigeria fixed the exchange rate of its naira currency at 22 to the U.S. dollar Monday, effectively abandoning market reforms of

the last seven years. Military ruler General Sani Abacha announced the move in his 1994 budget speech broadcast on radio and televi-

sion from the capital Abuja. "Government will actively al Abacha said, adding that it was taken "to create a favourable atmosphere for economic revival. Nigeria, under the previous

military regime of General Ibrahim Babangida introduced a structural adjustment prog-ramme in September 1986. with backing from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. The reform sent the value of the naira tumbling from parity at the time with the U.S. unit. The naira currently exchanges at 22 to the dollar officially but trades at around 48 at the free market and

bureau de change. General Abacha said all bureaux of changes would benceforth become agents of the Central Bank of Nigeria.

"As such they are to hence-...a" forth sell foreign exchange at the rate prescribed by the CBN said.

"Bureaux de changes must therefore not sell forex to finance imports nor should they sell more than 2,500 or equivalent to any one customer," he

General Abacha, who seized power on Nov. 17, when the civilian installed by General Babangida to complete a return to civil rule programme resigned, also announced several tough measures reversing the key policies of the previous regimes.

From now on, he said, all foreign exchange brought into the country would go into a national foreign exchange account and all imports would be done on the basis of letters

This effectively abolishes the free flow of imports under the structural adjustment of the Babangida era.

He said a new tax on consumption or value added tax would be introduced in 1994.

The general also pegged interest rates and said this would be strictly enforced. Savings and deposit rates were fixed at between 12 to 15 per cent compared to about 40 per cent currently while lending rates, inclusive of legal and other charges were pegged at 21 per cent versus up to 60 per cent currently.

An economic intelligence committee would be established to monitor strict implementation of the policies.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JANUARY 12, 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a day when you can make important decisions and get the results you are seeking if you clearly target the obstacles that need to be overcome and take the next logical step to gain your ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

you want as partners in the fu-ture to some charming spot to ment better relations. TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) It would be well to think of the

Endeavour to take those whom

welfare of your own clan today, buying some thoughtful gift or mechanism that will make your work easier, etc. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Be sure you get to barber or

beauty shop to get appearance at its best. Then keep important business appointments. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Handle fundamental affairs today and look far into the future. Don't expect miracles.

but make it a point to show associates you are grateful for their loyalty. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Make use of that charming, persuzsive way you have to get others to assist you in your practical and constructive plans. Be

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Much can be accomplished if you contact early au-

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2 Eirthen pot
3 Zodiac people
4 Reproduction

thorities in your field of endeavour and get their advice and

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) A day to follow own those friends who can cooperate with you in business and personal

SCORPIO: (October 23 to ity is yours now to find an answer to your perplexities, then confidentially get your ideas orga-

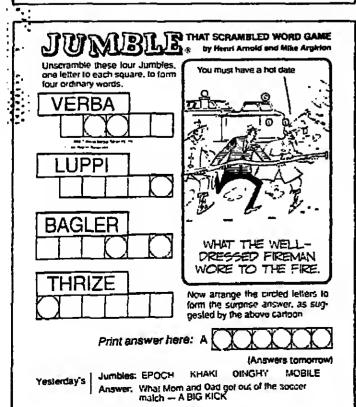
SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Listen to unusual ideas of allies, since they can benefit you greatly. Don't be so opinionated, since they hold the key to success today. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

January 20) Step out early into the world of business and make great progress by following the ideas given you by experts. Have dinner out ionight and also handle civie affairs properly tonight. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Be broad minded with regard to any suggestions

made by plain-speaking associ-ates, since progress is possible through them. PISCES: (February 20 to March Follow your intuition in handling your tasks today since they will help you to advance. more quickly. Make a good im-pression on higher-ups.

THE BETTER HALF, By Glasbergen

"Roses have an attitude and think they're superior to all the other flowers. So I got you dandelions!"



Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



THE Daily Crossword by Stanley a. Whitten ACROSS 1 Lody native 5 Like some rocks 10 Stender shoot 14 Fish sauce 15 A miss is as good as — 16 E-itravagant actions. appraisal 17 Thicken 16 Car style 19 Netman N 19 Netman No 20 Cash obta 20 Cash obtained by deception 22 Oale by deception 22 Oale 23 Kepler's target 24 Letters for the boas 26 Mountain in Thessaly 27 Stewart or Brown 30 John Singer — (US painter) 32 "A rose — rose". 33 Prevancator 35 Turkish hospica 38 Most qualified 40 Bad luck look at Beautilication treatment 42 Gaing ending 43 Pend of note 45 Stearing 45 Subsequently 46 Flophouse 50 Was victionous 51 Consumed 52 Agains:





54 Crazy 55 Showy flower 56 Midday 57 "Auld to kakan autnor

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Hyundai to start producing cars in Egypt

CAIRO (R) — Hyundai Motor Corporation Ltd. will take part in a \$100 million project to assemble its cars in Egypt, a company official said

"A technical agreement was signed with Egypt's Ghabbour Brothers to assemble 10,000 units a year of three models of our compact cars by early 1996," Musadek Sabet, general maoager of Hyundai's

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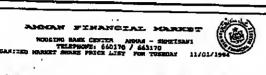
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liaison office in Egypt, told

Mr. Sabet said production was expected to start before the end of this year.

According to the agreement, signed in Cairo at the end of last month, the South Korean concern will provide the project with technical assistance and car components to produce its Excel models 1.3 and 1.5 Ls and 1.5 GLS.



COGARIZED HOLDER SERVE PRICE LIST	rum 140mm		127 1994	
COMPANY'S SLANE	TRADED VOLUME JD	CLOSTNO PRICE	PRICE PRICE	PRICE
ARAB BANK			***	
JORDAN MATIORAL BANK	179,710	7.600		
CAIRD AMONT BANK	4.393		7.300	5.970
BUCK OF JORDAN	37.505	4. 200	43.470	45.760
KIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK.	37,505 18,480 12,667 33,105	2.120	1.120	2-130
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BARK	12,667	3.170	3.140	3.150
THE HOUSING BANK	33,105	4. 830	5.760	4.850
INFORMY KNIKATI BANK JORDAN GOLF JANK HARS JOHDAN LEVISTICENT BANK JORDAN ISLANDE BANK UNION SANTA FOR BAYING S INVESTMENT BUSICASES BENJACE TO HARSAN BANK FOR KUYASTMENT HILLARELPEA INVESTMENT HILLARELPEA INVESTMENT HORTZED LESTMANCE.	137,459	3.230	3.260	3.160
SOUTH COLF BARE	195,237	1.770	1.770	1.850
WORRY TOTALL BANK	3, 400	4.260	4.250	4.240
WITH THE SEC STATUTE & CHESCHARM	23,500	4.700	4, 500	4.640
BUSINESS BANK	2,088	5,100	4. ;40	5.360
ANCIAN TRACE FOR THEFETATION	2,350	4, 300	4.200	4, 200
MILADELPELA INVESTMENT DAME	315,175	2.000	2.000	2.030
DITTED INSURANCE	40,667	2.440	2.560	2.460
TOROAN PRENCY TREUTURGE	74,605	1.645	3.380 5.880	3.360
UFIVERSAL INSURANCE				1.650
ARAB LIFE E ACCIDENT INSURANCE MODRELAS ELECTRIC POMER	1,510	3.030		3.020
MINDRAIAM ELECTRIC POMER	177.755	2.440		2.460
10010 DISTRICT BLECTRICITY	4,950 11,174	1.560	1.360	1.390
KORDAN WATICHAL SHIPPING LINES	11,174	2.120	2.120	
			9, 700	D. 700
RATIONAL PORTPOLIO ESCURTTES IONNAS INTENNATIONAL TRADING CENTER NUMBER PRESS FORMATION / ALRA'S	46, 370 2 115	4.170	4.140	4.130
ICHUAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CINTER	2,115	1.450	1.700	1.690
MATIONAL PORTPOLIO EMCURITIES INGOMAN INTENDATIONAL TRADING CENTER INGOMAN PRESE FUNDATION / ALRA'I MATINE MEMBALE RAST & COMMONOME MOTELS MATINE POR LEVESTHERT & EDUCATION ATTAMORES CONST. HARMANIAL MANUMENTURING INGOMAN FROM PRESENTAL MANUMENTURING INCOMENTAL MANUMENTURING AND PROPERTY OF THE	700	14.000	4,000	14.000
DATE VILLE ALLE CORPODORE MOTELS	293,643	3.370	2.350	2.340
MANA TATAL AND THANKS I EDGENISH	53,540	3.200	J. 100	3.350
THE TORGET CONTEST PACTORS OF	3,963	1.620	1.790	1.770
TORONAL PROGRESSY MANUAL	80,002	3. 100	3.100	3.150
ROBDAN FEFROLEIM REVINSEY	1.733	3.200	3.150	3.150
THE SOUND CONTROL & ACRICULTURAL THE SOUNDSTRIAL CONCERCIAL & ACRICULTURAL THE SOUNDS CONSTRUCTOR AND IN	22 105	7.460	7,650	7, 510
THE JOHNAL WORSTED MILLS	1, 150	7.850	11 600	31.500
THE JORDAN CONSTRUCTION MILLS ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL HAMPPACTURING ARAB CHROTCAL DETERGENTE INDUSTRIES	16, 71	0 550	9.560	
WAR CHENTCAL DETERGENTE INDUSTRIES	1.930	30,350	19.300	
PLANTING & MINUTES				2.920
RAFIA INDUSTRIES	29.493	2 - 600	2.410	2.300
SORDM CLASS INDUSTRIES	3.918	0.300	0. 390	0, 400
TRENTESVIL & THENTOLYNG ANAD AND AN	287-598	18.260	15,700	
MAN ISVESTMENT & IMPRODITIONAL TRADS	22.207	2.520	2,500	2.550
COMMAN CLASS INDUSTRIES DARA AL DANA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT DANA LEVELTHORY & LANGUATIONAL TRANS DANA ALBERTICAL DOUBLES EARN PAPER CONTESTING & TRADING DOUBLE HOUSE CONTESTING & TRADING DOUBLE HOUSE CONTESTING EXAMPLES TORONS HOUSEAL COMPERATION	14,523	10.300	10.350	10.400
ARAB PAPER CONTESTING & THAD INC	2.627	1.030	2.600	1.570
TORDAY MEDICAL CORPORATION	2,627 915	0.360	0.360	0.360
MATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY	1.330	5.400	5. 150	5.360
PRESENTATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	4,180	3. 600	3.650	3.060
WINEYER CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	5,611	7.600	7. 350	7.350
MATICAL STEEL PROTEINS METCHAL STEEL PROTEINS METCHASIAL CHEMICAL EMMERICAL IMPUSTRIES METCHASIAL CHEMICAL EMMERICAL METCHASIAL CHEMICAL EMMERICAL METCHASIAL CHEMICAL EMMERICAL METCHASIAL CHEMICAL METCHASIAL METCHASIAL METCHASIA METCHAS	201,507	1.210	1. 260	1.270
ANDAR PRECIST CONCRETE DEDUSTRY	3.440	0.370	0.340	0.360

Financial Markets

Jordan Times in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank



U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Clase Pate 10/1/94	Close
,	
1,4930	1.4930
1.7338	1,7359
1.4715	1,4740
5,9060	5.9060 **
112,25	112,45
1,1220	1,1157.**
	1,4930 1,7338 1,4715 5,9060 112,25

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UND Per STS:

procurrency Interest R			Date: 1/1	
Carreacy	I MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3,00	3,12	3,25	3,56
Sterling Pound	5,31	5,31	5.31	5,18
Deutsche Mark	6.06	5.75	5,56	5,18
Swiss Franc	4,00	3,81	3,68	3,53
French Franc	6,37	6,19	5.81	5,37
Japanese Yen	2,37	2.15	1,96	1,87
European Currency Unit	6.37	6.25	6.00	5,56

Interbunk hid rates for amounts exceeding 1 % Dollars 1,000,000 or countains

	D	1/11/9
Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dellar	0,705	0.707
Sterling Pound	1,0512	1,0565
Deutsche Mark	0,4055	0.4075
Swiss Franc	0,4774	0,4798
French Frenc	0,1192	0.1198
Iapanese Yen ³	0,6258	0.6289
Dutch Guilder	0,3624	0.3642
Swedish Kruna		
Italian Lira	0,0413	0,0415
Belgian Franc		

Other Currencies	Da	rem: 1/11/9
Currency	Bld	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1,8570	1.8800
Lebanese Lira	0,0407500	0,041785
Saudi Riyal	0.18750	0,18900
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.5100	2,3650
Qatari Riyal	0.19100	0,19230
Egyptian Pound	0,2050	0,2200
Omani Riyal	1,7980	1.8240
UAE Dirham	0,19100	0,19230
Greek Drachma*	0.2765	0,3285
Cypriot Pound	1,3325	1,3845

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

	•	
U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.3180/90	Canadian dollar
•	1.7393/03	Deutschemarks
	1.9473/83	Dutch guilders
	1.4742/52	Swiss francs
	36.25/29	Belgian francs
	5.9143/93	French francs
	1702.8/4.3	Italian lire
	112.75/85	Japanese yen
	8.1935/35	Swedish crowns
	7.5130/80	Norwegian crowns
•	1.315W60	Danish crowns
	6.7450/00	Daniel Control
One sterling	\$1.4900/10	
One ounce of gold	\$384,25/384.65	

Mr. Sabet said the agreement envisaged an increase in production to 50,000 units a year by the end of 1998. The cars will be built at an assembly plant under construction in Sadat City, 100 kilometres

north of Cairo. He declined to specify



Hyundai's share of the \$100 million eosts, saying the pro-ject is totally owoed by Ghabbour Brothers, a private company involved in manufacturing car components.

The project will also establish its own feed industry, including the construction of 10 small factories to provide it with a range of components from car seats to air condition-

Egypt requires that at least 40 per cent of the components of cars assembled there be manufactured locally. Two international car com-

panies, General Motors Corporation and Suzuki Motors. set up assembly plants in the 1980s in a market with demand estimated at about 100,000 cars

A state-owned assembly factory, set up in the 1960s to produce Fiatr compact cars, is saddled with heavy losses.

Italy car industry sees record fall in sales

TURIN, Italy (R) - Italian car sales slumped a record 20 per cent last year and the market is unlikely to see any significant pick up in 1994, the industry association Anfia said Monday. New car registrations in Italy. The world's fourth largest car market, dropped to 1.89 million in 1993, down from 2.37 million the year before. It was the first time since 1988 that deliveries failed to reach two million cars and exceeds the previous sharpest deeline in sales seen in 1975. when registrations dropped 17.9 per cent. "The forecast for 1994 sees no recovery." Anfia said in a statement.

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Iraq plans new industry in defiance of sanctions

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq will build a new industry based on oil products in defiance of United Nations sanctions that are trying to ehoke the economy. Baghdad newspapers reported Tuesday.

Industry and Minerals Minister Hussein Kamel Hassan sent a telegram to President Saddam Hussein on the opening Monday of a huge petro-chemicals plant at Beiji.

"This strategie project ... has opened new borizons and it is indeed an axe in the hands of brilliant Iraqis to sbatter the embargo and teach the enemies a good lesson which will make them repent for their crazy sanctions," the telegramme read.

"The implementation of this strategic project means the

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taming of crude and its byproducts," General Hassan

Iraqi officials say their future oil policy will focus on treating crude oil inside the country and then selling it abroad. The Iraqis have repaired their Gulf war-damaged refineries and say they already have more refining products than they

need. Iraq's oil exports are currently choked by U.N. sanctions, but state and private companies are exporting unknown quantities to rebel Kurds in the north, Iran and

The U.N. sanctions committee allows Jordan to import small quantities of Iraqi crude and a fleet of Jordanian tankers is busy day and night carrying Iraqi oil over a 2,000kilometre land route.

General Hassan is also the supervisor of Irag's Military Industrial Authority which he said was behind the post-Gulf

war industrial reconstruction. "There are many refineries in Iraq. The Military Industrial Authority modified and produced a great number. They are more than what (we) need. We shall use these refineries and their products for the be-

nefits of the people," he said. Newspapers quoted him as saying many factories were under construction. "All of them will basically rely on our refineries' products," he said. Some of the factories would be useful for military indus-

trialisation, General Hassan said. He did not elaborate.

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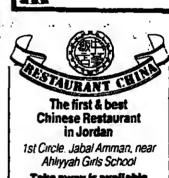
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New Russian parliament opens; Yeltsin appeals for cooperation

MOSCOW (R) — Russia's new opposition-dominated parliament opened in makeshift surroundings Tuesday to an appeal from President Boris Yeltsin for a new era of cooperation between the former rival branches of the

"Now it is very necessary... that cooperation becomes the main thing in the relationship between the executive and legislative branches of power." he iold deputies of the upper house, the part-time Federation Council.

Mr. Yeltsin sent a similar appeal to the lower house, the State Duma, meeting separately two kilometres away.

"I don't call upon vou for unity of political views but there are some common values without which we cannot ensure this country's prosperity." said the message, read out by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin.

"These values are civic peace, stability, national unity and renewal... I see every possiblity for civilised political dia-

The new parliament was set up after Mr. Yeltsin ended a power struggle between his government and the former parliament by sending in tanks to pound his rivals into submission in October.

The dispute had paralysed politics in Russia for more than a year and threatened to lead to civil war.

Under a new constitution narrowly approved in a re-ferendum on Dec. 12, parlia-

MOSCOW (AFP) - Russia

warned Latvia Tuesday it

would react very sharply to any new incidents after Latvia said

it narrowly escaped Russian military intervention following

the arrest by a local Latvian official of two Russian gener-

Viteheslav Kostikov, a

spokesman for Russian President Boris Yeltsin, said an

official protest to Riga over the

arrests was "adequate for the moment," the ITAR-TASS

"But should there be a repeti-

tion of such incidents, the reac-

tion of the president and Rus-

sia could be much tougher and

even very tough," 'Mr. Kosti-

news agency reported.

ment has ceded significant authority to the president, who is now the undisputed top power in the land.

Its reduced status was emphasised by the low profile of the opening ceremony. Russian Television channels did not broadcast Mr. Yeltsin's speech live and scheduled opposition demonstrations outside attracted no more than a handful of people.

The grand former par-liamentary building, the White House, had been taken over for government offices and the new parliament has to meet separately in cramped. illequipped buildings until a permanent home is huilt for it.

The exact balance of powers in the new parliament is unclear. But Communists and extreme nationalists outnumber supporters of Mr. Yeltsin's radical market reforms.

The Duma began its work by observing a minute's silence, at the suggestion of the Communists, for those killed during a revolt by the old parliament on Oct. 3 and its suppression the following day.

Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov pledged to try to cooperate with Mr. Chernomyrdin's government.

"Today neither the president nor the government nor the parliament has enough power to change the situation and deal with the crisis," he told reporters before the open-

ng.
"The country can only be put back on track if the three combine their efforts."

Russia warns Latvia against new incidents

The two Russian generals were arrested Monday after an

argument with the mayor of a

town near Riga over the future

of a nearby Russian military

Russia immediately broke off negotiations over the with-drawal of Russian troops from

Latvia in protest over the

Russian Defence Minister

Pavel Grachev's press service

Tuesday also confirmed that in

response to the arrests, he had put on alert the 20,000 Russian

soldiers stationed in Latvia as

well as several divisions of pa-

ratroopers on the Latvian-

Russian border, ITAR-TASS

Latvian President Guntis

Ulmanis aeknowledged that his

Mexican rebels offer peace talks

But a former top Yeltsin aide, Gennady Burbulis, took a gloomy view, predicting that nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky would sacrifice the legislature to his presidential ambi-

"It is quite obvious that many political forces in the Duma will use parliament to prepare for the next presidential elections and because of this the new parliament could work against stability." Mr. Burbulis told reporters.

In his 15-minute address. Mr. Yeltsin promised to defend the new constitution. The opposition wants to change it but Mr. Yeltsin said Russian statehood depended on the constitution and he hoped deputies would respect it.

He said that despite his drive for a market economy. Russian legislation in many respects had failed to create the right conditions and urged deputies to do their part.

There are still many virtually insurmountable obstacles for the businessman, the banker and the farmer." he

"If during your work in this area there is a breakthrough you will not only justify the hopes of your electors, but will occupy an honourable place in Russia's history.

Touching on the explosive question of regional autonomy. Mr. Yeltsin said Russia was a united state and the division of powers between the central government and the provinces was elearly defined in the new constitution. But he

country had come very close to

a Russian military interventi-

son over the incident, reviving

the nightmare of its 1940

annexation by the Soviet state.

Mr. Ulmanis, in comments
late Monday quoted by the
Baltic News Service, said Russian troops had been put on a
state of alert and "for 15 mi-

nutes they were ready to enter

Latvia" after the local official had the two generals hauled off

have been defused by Tuesday.

News Agency said Mr. Ulmanis had officially apologised to Russia. They also said the offi-

cial who bad ordered the

arrests, Andreejs Rucs, had

But the crisis appeared to

Both the Russian and Baltic

in bandcuffs.

added: "Strong regions create the condition for the flourishing of Russia.

Deputies expect the parliament to go into recess after Tuesday's meeting for the creation of factions.

Mr. Chernomyrdin Tuesday said his government was ready to tone down the radical economic reforms that sparked a backlash in December's parliamentary lections. "I see every opportunity to

launch a new stage on economie reforms, a stage of stabilisation during which we should provide (the right) conditions for producers," he told the inaugural session of the State Duma.

"The government will not allow ill-considered leaps forward and unreasonable shock actions," said Mr. Chernomyrdin, adding that he wanted to avoid the frequent policy

Mr. Chernomyrdin warned against simplistic, popular solutions, saying there were no easy ways of solving the crisis.

'The limit of people's patience is nearly exhausted but attempts to solve the crisis through populist measures will never succeed," he said. "I would like to exclude

certain words from the government's dictionary as regards its relations with parliament. These words are intolerance and impatience," Mr. Chernomyrdin said.

"By impatience I mean striving for fast results which leads to impressive but ineffectual

Ukraine casts doubt over signing of nuclear

day cast doubt on whether it will sign a definitive agreement to dismantle its nuclear arsenal

"Despite Bill Clinton's declaration in Brussels, the Ukrainian side is not sure that the definitive version of the accord on the fate of its nuclear d in Mos cow on Jan. 14," Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuri

tive version has not been realised, the three-way summit (between Mr. Clinton, Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk) in Moscow will be

Sergei Golovaty, an opposition deputy in the Ukraioian parliament, which must approve any nuclear deal, said that any signature "by Leonid Kravehuk on a dismantling accord would trigger a scandal in parliament." He said that Mr. Kravchuk had "exceeded his powers" by agreeing to sign

during its inaugural session Tuesday (AFP General view of the State Duma, the lower chamber of the Russian Federal Assembly, De Klerk, Mandela make major progress on anti-violence measures PRETORIA (Agencies) — President F.W. De Klerk and The president said measures under consideration included 'socio-economic upliftment, ANC leader Nelson Mandela

emerged in an upbeat mood Tuesday from a four-hour meeting on how to deal with the violence sweeping across South Africa. In their first joint public

appearance at home since August 1990, the two leaders told reporters in the courtyard of the Union Building govern-ment offices here that they had made major progress.

But they refused to provide

any details, saying they would meet again next week. The African National Con-

gress (ANC) leader, who went into the talks with a list of into the talks with a list of proposals he is keeping under wraps, bad warned Monday that the country would finditself in a "crisis" if Mr. De Klerk rejected his offers.

"The progress that was made today was very encouraging," he told reporters Tuesday. "A crisis will emerge if De Klerk remains deaf to my proposals—but it does appear

proposals - but it does appear that we are making very good

Mr. De Klerk said many aspects of Mandela's proposals "coincide with what we have been planning on our own, but we need the cooperation of the community in this regard."

which will have to go hand-inhand with stabilising the situa-

He did not elaborate. Mr. Mandela said differences remain between the ANC and Mr. De Klerk's

National Party government, but continuous negotiations appear to be narrowing the Today we have made a great deal of progress," he said. "I wish I could spell out

the significant steps that we have discussed, but they are highly sensitive and they also have to be addressed by the He was referring to the Transitional Executive Council (TEC), a multiparty body that

for the first time gives the

country's black majority a say

in government in the run-up to

the South Africa's first all-race

election scheduled for April The TEC was also meeting? in Pretoria Tuesday to discuss the political violence that claimed more than 4,000 lives last year, mostly in the black

townships east of Johannesburg. Meanwbile, Kwazula Chief

Midler raises \$250,000 to fight AIDS

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SAN FRANCISCO (R) - A Bette Midler concert raised \$250,000 to support the fight against the deadly disease AIDS, a San Francisco AIDS group said Monday. Five hundred of the several thousand tickets to Midler's New Year's Eve concert in San Francisco were sold for \$500 each with the proceeds going to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. The organisation offers counselling to people with AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) and HIV, the virus which causes the disease, and backs campaigns to prevent the disease from spreading. Midler performed songs from throughout her career during a three-hour show, with singer Patti Labelle also making a surprise appearance. The sum was the largest donation the San Francisco AIDS Foundation has received from an individual artist from a live concert in San Francisco, the promo-ters said. "We couldn't be more delighted to accept this donation," Pat Christen, ex-ecutive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, said. The foundation, which has an annual budget of some \$7 million, raises 70 per cent of In a statement issued in the Kwazulu capital of Ulundi, Mr. Buthelezi said a cabinet its funds from private sources. Midler said she was pleased to raise mooey for an organisa-tion fighting AIDS. "New year's eve was one of the best nights of my life." she said.

Unauthorised kissing lands man in jail

DHAKA (R) — A 22-year-old Bangladeshi man landed in jail after be stopped a newlymarried girl on a busy street and kissed ber in public, police said Tuesday. Mohammad Minto halted a rickshaw carrying the half-veiled 18-year-old m old Dhaka City Monday and started kissing her. He said later be was unable to keep his passion under control. "The girl screamed at the stranger and people around turned on him but he was irresistible. He kept kissing someone else's wife, a seriuous offence under Bangladeshi law, until police arrived," one witness said. Police said the girl, whom they would not identify, almost fainted. Mintoo was beaten up by passers-by and was locked up in the police station. An officer said he would be jailed. for up to two weeks or freed with a warning.

Accuser: Jackson had seduction campaign

LOS ANGELES (R) — Pop superstar Michael Jackson set out to seduce a 13-year-old boy, even using the horror film. The Exorcist, to frighten him ioto sleeping in the same bed, according to court docu-ments filed Monday. The boy, who became 14 Tuesday, said in a sworn statement his seduction iocladed masturbation and taking baths with Jackson.

Lorena Bobbitt trial goes into second day

MANASSAS, Va. (R) - The

trial of Lorena Bobbitt enters

its second day Tuesday after dramatic testimony by ex-

marine husband that she cut

off his penis while he slept. But lawyers for the 24-year-old manicurist said she acted after a "region of terror" inflicted upon her by her busband throughout their turbulent four-year marriage. The lawyers argued she cut off his penis in an "irresistable inpulse" she could not control. As the opening prosecution witness in her trial for malicious wounding, John Wayne Bobbitt, 26, said in halting testimony Monday he could not remember if he had sex with his wife early last June 23 before she wielded her knife. Her legal team insists her husband raped her before the dismemberment, a charge on which he was acquitted two months ago at a trial in the same country courthouse. Lorena fled their apartment after the incident with her husband's dismembered penis and later threw it out of her car. Police recovered it and took it to a hospital where surgeons reattached it in an operation lasting more than nine hours." in describing the incident to the jury of seven women and five men, John Bobbitt said he had had tried to have sex with his wife after she made amorous advances but said he could not do so, saying he was exhausted after being up nearly 24 hours. After falling asleep, he said he was awakened when he felt some tugging. "She pulled on my groin area twice and after that she just cut it off," he said.

where the rebels captured six The self-styled Zapatista cities in a New Year's Day

fighting army troops in southern Mexico offered to hold a truce and peace talks with the government, but they renewed a threat to take their battle to the capital if terms for the talks were rejected.

MEXICO CTTY (R) — Rebels

National Liberation Army rebels called in a communique made public Monday for a ceasefire and the return of all Mexican army troops to their bases before they would agree to negotiate an end to their 10-day uprising, which has taken at least 103 lives. If their conditions were not

met, the rebels said, "our troops will continue their advance to the capital of the coun-

The offer, signed by "Snbcomandante Marcos," was delivered to a newspaper in San Cristobal De Las Casas in the sonthern state of Chiapas

Subcomandante Marcos apparently was the same Comandante Marcos" the government said it has been seeking since the nprising broke out. In an accompanying letter, Marcos facetiously noted that he had been "moved to tears" by reports that be had twice been cap-

tured and once killed, He also pointed outi. that

> Jan. 6, but became poblic a few hours after President Carlos Solis as a new peace commissioner to resolve the crisis.

state of Chiapas.

his title was "subcomandante" (snbcommander) and not 'comandante" (commander), indicating there were other, higher-ranking Zapatistas. The communique was dated

Salinas De Gortari said he had replaced his hardline Interior Minister Patrocinio Gonzalez Garrido and named Foreign Minister Mannel Camacho

Mr. Gonzalez has been cited for human rights abuses during his years as governor of the

Sydney fears return of firestorms

SYDNEY (R) - Firefighters worked frantically to contain several major bush fires still burning around Sydney Tuesday as forecasts of warmer weather and stiffer winds raised fears that killer firestorms could flare anew.

· a

'We were hoping for good weather until 6 a.m. tomorrow. We are not going to get it," said Terry Griffiths. said Terry Griffiths, emergency services minister for the state of New South Wales. "The weather tomorrow,

Thursday and Friday is not good and the weather Saturday is going to be bloody awful," he said. "On Saturday we may go to hell and back again. About 150 fires continued to

blaze across the state Tuesday. Four people have been killed and more than 190 bomes destroyed in the fires which have raged through New South

Wales and Sydney's northern and southern suburbs for two The economic impact of the fires was also becoming clearer Tuesday. Estimates of damage

to residential and commercial properties was put at about (\$100 million). The New South Wales government also said the costs of fighting the blazes had reached

\$79 million. Several fires were cutting large swaths through a sparsely populated area of the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney. Tuesday. The Gosford area.- north of Sydney, also remained under threat.

Fires in the north Sydney area around Davidson National Park, which threatened the affluent suburb of St. Ives. were nearly extinguished by water bombing Tnesday while tactical burning and infrared radar belped contain others across the state.

Tuesday's weather offered some reprieve for firefighters for the third day in a row, temperatures hovered around 25 degrees Celsius (77 Fahrenheit), compared with about 40 Celsius (104 Fahrenheit) at the height of the

crisis Saturday. But hot northwesterly winds, which fuelled Saturday's fires, were expected to whip up Wednesday and Thursday and pose new threats of fire outbreaks in northern Sydney, said Phil Koperberg, chief of New South Wales Bush Fire Services.

"I just think we should remain alert and not regard the episode as being over in totality until the fires are all burnt out or we've had a half an inch

of rain or something," he said. People who lost homes and belongings continued to sift through the aubble and talk of plans to start again. From the air, northern areas of Sydney

resembled a checkerboard of black smoke and open ground. One resident described the usually pristine and untamed

forests of the Blue Mountains

as a "pile of burnt match-

Police Tuesday announced the creation of a task force to work with fire experts to examine all aspects of the fires. many of which were lit dehiberately. Eleven people have been

With the fires retreating, many firefighters who had come here from across Australia began flying home. The firefighters have been hailed as heroes for saving thousands of

Schools, churches, petrol stations, shops and small factories have also been destroyed in the swift-moving firestorms that in the past nine days burned over 600,000 hectares (1.5 million acres), including almost all of Sydney's Royal National Park, the world's second oldest national park.

Experts said it would take 250 years for the 15.000 hectare (40,000 acre) park to re-

The fires had severely depleted the habitat of one of Australia's main koala populations, Australian Koala Foundation (AKF) Executive Director Deborah Tabart said Tues-

"We suspect several small koala populations have become extinct in the Grafton area," she said. "These are slow-moving animals who tend to climb trees when they are in

accord KIEV (AFP) - Ukraine Tues-

Friday, as announced by U.S. President Bill Clinton in Brus-

Sergeyev said.
"If by that date the defini-

purely consultative, Mr. Sergeyev told reporters.

a deal in Moscow.

All suspected N. Korean nuclear sites must be inspected, U.S. senator says SEOUL (AFP) - Sam Nunn, under discussion - the seven thing new about Pyongyang's

Armed Services Committee, Tuesday called for inspections of all dubious North Korean nuclear facilities, including undeclared sites Pyongyang claims are non-nuclear.

At a press conference here at the end of a four-day visit. Sen. Nunn urged North Korea to open the two undeelared nuclear sites, as well as the seven declared, to inspections by the International Atomic

Energy Agency (IAEA).
"I think North Kores would have to satisfy the IAEA inspection teams, give them access to whatever sites are necessary, in order for them to do their job and do it completely and properly," he said.

"That would include the deelared sites that have been

- as well as two unde clared sites, and as well as other legitimate demands made by the IAEA for the purpose of assuring the world that North Korea is in compliance with the non-proliferation treaty (NPT) and its obligations," he said.

Sen. Nunn also called Pyongyang to resume a dialogue with Seoul to discuss implementation of a 1991 inter-Korean agreement, which calls for mutual nuclear verification inspections to ensure a

nuclear-free Korean peninsula. The Georgia Democrat made his call amid mounting concern in the United States that even if a deal with North Korca is worked out, limitations on the first round of inspections would yield no-

nuclear intentions. A New York Times report this week said IAEA agency officials would still be barred

Minister Mangosuthu

Buthelezi said Tuesday any un-ilateral action by South Afri-

can police against the territory will be considered "an inva-

meeting Tnesday had discussed

the deployment of the South

African police in areas under

the jurisdiction of the Kwazuln government and the Kwazulu

Past practice, the statement said, was that the two forces

would act in each other's areas

only after consultation and that

Ulundi "has always accepted

the arrangements... some of

which has been conducted

tion and formal cooperation

and consultation between the

South African Police Force

and the Kwazulu Police Force

will be regarded as an inva-

The Kwazulu government. Mr. Buthelezi said, will "not

hold itself responsible for the

consequences... (of) such an invasion" and will not be

'accountable for anything that

takes place outside formal

arrangements and cooperation

with the Kwazulu govern-

sion," the statement said.

"Anything outside legisla-

through legislation.

by Pyongyang from conducting special inspections of the two undeclared sites, suspected of storing nuclear waste. Earlier Tuesday, Sen. Nunn and Gen. Richard Lugar, a Republican member of the Senate Foreign Affairs Com-

mittee, met with President Kim Young-Sam to discuss the nuclear issue. The meeting came as the Foreign Ministry here said

Scoul's chief envoy for nuclear affairs, Kim Sam-Hoon, would leave Wednesday for Washington for top-level consultations. including talks with Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gal-

NEWS IN BRIEF

Janzania bans S. Africa's radical PAC

DAR ES SALAAM (R) - Tanzania banned the radical Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) Tuesday from using its territory as a base for attacks on South Africa, the Foreign Ministry said. Foreign Ministry officials summoned PAC representative to Tanzania Raymond Johnson and handed him a stronglyworded government statement condemning recent violence blamed on the PAC inside South Africa.

Sinn Fein wary over reassurance

BELFAST (R) - Sinn Fein, the political wing of the 1RA, has responded warrly to a declaration by Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds that British imperialism in Ireland was dead, hinting it still wants Anglo-Irish peace plans clatified. "Sinn Fein will examine carefully... remarks by the Taoiseach (Irish Prime Ministerl." Sinn Fein Vice-President Pat Doherty said in a statement. Mr. Reynolds had used a speech in Dublin Monday to try to win Republican approval for a peace plan on Northern Ireland which he and British Prime Minister John Major drew up on Dec. 15. "We will respond fully in due course. We have, however, always advised against this form of dialogue via the media, megaphone communication is not the best means to engage in conflict resolution." Mr. Doherty said. The IRA meanwhile has kept up its military campaign to oust Britain from Northern Ireland since the peace plan.

Balladur surges ahead in polls

PARIS (AFP) - French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur is firm favourite to be elected next president, with 62 per cent support according to the latest opinion poll published here Tuesday. He has garriered seven additional points in a month, despite growing unemployment, a fresh outhreak of discontent in the education system, and the controversial expulsion to Iran of two Iranian murder suspects wanted for questioning in Switzetland. Trailing behind Mr. Balladur on 43 per cent, a 19-point gap, is the Socialist Jacques Delors, current head of the European Commission. Even further behind at 33 per cent is the leader of Balladur's neo-Gaullist RPR party Jacques Chirac, the mayor of Paris, the poll showed. The election for the successor to François Mitterrand is due in May 1995.

Zhirinovsky warns Ankara

ANKARA (AFP) - Russian ultra-nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovsky Tuesday warned Ankara over its "interventionist" policies in the Caucasus and Central Asia. In an interview with the private Turkish television channel Kanal-6. Mr. Zhirinovsky said: "We respect all the accord on respecting existing borders in our region. But Turkey has a tendency to intervene in the affairs of the Turkish-speaking countries in a spirit of pan-Turkish expansionism." He was referring to the former Soviet republics of Azerbaijan. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, all of which have close linguistic historical ties to Turkey. Mr. Zhirinovsky, leader of the Liberal Democratie Party, said the summit of Turkishmeaking countries in Baku on Jan. 21 and 22, which Turkish President Suleyman Demircl is to attend, deserved a lot of thought and raised a lot of questions. He went on to assert that a third world war was "inevitable" if the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina, hostilitics between Armenia and Azerbaijan and similar conflicts "continue without solution."

Abkhazia peace talks resume

GENEVA (AFP) — U.N.-sponsored peace talks between Georgian officials and Abkhazian separatist leaders resumed here Tuesday, with the focus on ensuring the return fo 200,000 refugees to the breakaway Black Sea region. The Organisation of a referendum on the constitutional status of Ahkhazia within Georgia is also on the agenda, diplomatic sources said. A first round of talks here culminated in the Dec. I signing of a memorandum of understanding under heavy pressure from Russia. That document called for a ceasefite, the release of 19 prisoners of war and the freedom to return home for Georgian refugees who fled their homes during 17 months of civil war. Georgian officials accuse the separatist Abkhazians of blocking the return of the tefugees by pursuing offensive operations, notably around Gali in the north and the Kodori River Valley which forms the frontier between Ahkhazia and Georgia. "The situation is serious. It is no longer time for declarations... It is time for progress. said Shalva Pishkadze, a member of the Georgian government delegation headed by Jaba loseliani. a former militia leader now allied to President Eduard Shevardnadze.



Small town in Norway awaits Olympic invasion

OSLO (AFP) - The final countdown to a demonstration that a small town in a little country can stage a worldwide extravaganza bas started.

With a month to go to the Feb. 12 opening of the XVII Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, the snow is reassuringly thick and temperatures are heading down to minus six degrees Celsius.

Organisers hope that nothing can now stop the Olymnic circus. Everything is under control, said the games organisers information director Tor Aune.

We have all kinds of backop arrangements if something should go wrong," he added.
And with some 2,000 athletes from 80 countries, there is little margin for error.

Norway bas spent seven billion kroner (\$959 million) on the event. Lillehammer Olympic Organising Committee (LOOC) President Gerhard Heiburg expressed Norwegian determination to put the small lown of Lillehammer on the world map.

Much emphasis is being put on being economical and ecological. Food plates are made of potato starch and will be recycled as animal fodder, for

"The Lillehammer games is a showcase for Norwegian expertise in areas such as environmental protection, technology, design and architectute." Heiberg empbasised in the LOOC magazine Olympic Update.

in an increasingly cost conscious environment, the organisers expect the games to break even, and inspecting the main arenas last week. Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland said she was impressed.

"The creativeness of the organisers and the prospects for future use of the arenas fully justify the big investment," she said.

Most of the 115 events in 12 disciplines are in or near Lillehammer. But some spectacular arenas bave also been constructed in neighbouring cities.

At Gjoevik, 50 kilometres south of Lillehammer, a sports hall blasted oot of the bedrock

holders Arsenal into the fourth

round of the F.A. Cup bere. First division Millwall were

just a couple of minutes away

from earning a lucrative High-

bury replay when Eddie

McGoldrick swung over a cor-

ner from the left and Adams

The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 \$ 1 \tilde{e}\$
Pass Pass Dbl Pass

A .- All the indications are that

partner has a very good hand. Still,

we would not elect to convert part-ner's takeout to penalties. The five-

card heart suit and some values

make game a more rewarding pros-

pect, so we would opt for a jump to

three hearts. If we were playing neg-stive doubles, partner would have available the inference that our

and was not strong enough for that action over one spade.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South

901 hold: \$E5432 ∇Void ◊AKQ2 #J652

What action do you take? A.—An awkward hand, but we

think it is safer to take action now

rather than later, Since a takeout double with no hearts in your hand a unthinkable, the only course

aspite the quality of your suit.

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South

\$£432 ♥Void ♦AKQ2 4J8542

Since partner didn't preempt

hearts in first seat, it is reason-

ible to essume North must have

ength in at least one of the minor

nits. You certainly have one of the

better hands at the table, so don't

sell out to two spedes. Bid two oo

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
Pass 1 2 Pass 2 2
Pass Pass 7
What Talkin James 1 14

What action do you take?

lable is to overcall one spade

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
Pass 1 0 ?

What action do you take?

of a mountain, will host the opening rounds of the ice hockey.

The Hamar Olympic Hall, shaped like an overturned viking longboat, will host all speed skating.

The Haakon Hall in Lille-hammer's Olympic Park, venue for the ice hockey finals, is considered an architectural and engineering masterpiece. Its advanced heating system even recycles warm water used in the showers.

The spectacular ski jumping arena, with room for 50,000 spectators, is set to become a new landmark for Lilleham-

Around 1.3 million tickets have been offered worldwide and 100,000 visitors are expected on each of the 16 Olympic days, with peaks for the opening and closing ceremonies.

Fans and competitors can be reassured about the weather forecast. Snow has been falling for weeks and the ski tracks are excellent.

Daytime temperatures are expected to be around minus six degrees Celsius (21 degrees Fahrenheit) with minimal wind and not too much cloud. Statisticians say there is a less than two per cent chance of the cold falling to minus 20 degrees Celsius (minus six Fahrenheit).

As at all Olympic Games, traffic jams are a major fear. So hundreds of buses will shuttle spectators from one arena to another. All visitors will have to enter Lillehammer by bus or train and even locals will have car access restricted.

Trains will leave Oslo every ten minutes during peak periods for the three hour trip to Lillebammer.

And, as at previous games, VIP's will be the exception to the transportation rule. Royalty, stage and screen stars, politicians and business leaders will flock to Lillehammer, according to LOOC.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) and its guests is a circus onto itself. The IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch has denied Norwegian press reports that 1OC members would even be

The goal was a just reward

for England defender Adams

who had strode like a colossus

through the mayhem of this

London derby enacted in front of a record 20,093 New Den

crowd. But it was a sad anti-

chmax for the home side who

South you hold: **AKQ10765** ♥J ♦K1096 **46**

A .- Your hand rates to produ

eight tricks on its own and there's really no way to find out whether

partner will contribute anything to

of clubs with North would be pyrite, while the queen of diamonds is gold.

We would take our chances and bid

Q.5-Both vulnerable, as South

you hold: ♦K754 ♥A8 06 +1087532

A.—Certainly you are going to support partner, but the trouble with three spades is that partner might think you are stretching a

little to compete. To show sound playing values, jump to four spades.

Q.6-As South, vulnerable, you

•AKJ ∇K97 ◊A985 ◊K54

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 V Page ?

What do you hid now?

A.—It might seem that with a halanced 13 points you should make the textbook jump to three no

trump. However, your hand is all prime and sees and kings are under-

valued in the point count. In addi-tion, your king of hearts should be upgraded a point, bringing your hand closer to 20 points, rather

than 18. For the moment, bid two

diamonds to see what transpires.

The bidding has proceeded: North Keat South West 1 2 3 0 7

What do you bid now?

the cause, For instance, king-queen

North East

What do you bid now?

-Weak

a East South West Pass ? The hidding has proceeded:

LONDON (AFP) — A last bundled the ball forward. It gasp goal from Tony Adams bounced into the net off goal-

GOREN BRIDGE

broke Millwall hearts and put keeper Kasey Keller.

Arsenal scrape through against plucky Millwall



With the ski jumping arena and the calm waters of Lake Mjoesa providing the backdrop, an Olympic billboard announces the imminent arrival of the 1994 Winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer, Norway (AFP photo)

taking flasks of their own blood to the games in case there was an accident that needed a transfusion.

"That is just stupid," said Samaraneh, who often denies tales of IOC excess.

But 2,000 official guests will et G or GV (guest very important) badge About 200 GVs will be able

to get into any site and drive around with their chauffeur. The 1,800 GS, who include ambassadors from competing countries, can go to all sites but must buy tickets to events like other spectators.

The opening ceremony, hosted by actress Liv Ullmann and archaeologist Tor Heyer-

had played their hearts out.

Most of the spectators had

abandoned hope of witnessing

a goal when Adams suddenly

struck for cup specialists

Arsenal who have been beaten

only once in 27 knock-out

But this proved to be poss-

ibly their greatest test of

physical commitment, strength

Pat Van Den Hauwe and

Keith Stephenson blotted out

the highly-rated Kevin

Campbell-lan Wright part-

nership, while Alex Rae, Phil

Barber and Andy Roberts

passes frequently went astray

and hasty goal attempts ended

in the highest rows of the new

Arsenal's David Seaman had

no direct shot to save in the

entire 90 minutes while Keller

was called on just twice, to

field weak efforts from Camp-

HINTERSTODER, Austria

(R) — World Cup leader Kjetil-Andre Aamodt won his

first race of the season in im-

pressive style Tuesday with outstanding runs in both legs of

Aamodt skied the long, icy

Baerenalm Piste, in a com-

bined time over the two legs of

The Norwegian, reigning

slalom and giant slalom world

champion and Olympic super-

giant slalom gold medallist,

finished almost a second ahead

Austria's Christian Mayer,

of the competition.

and a kitchen.

two minutes 49.63 seconds.

matches.

and will.

grandstands.

a giant slalom.

dahl, will be one of the top draws.

Traditional Lapland songs, 2.000 extras, 400 children, the Norwegian Royal Guard, ski troops will perform before a public who will be given a special white uniform as they enter the venue.

But the two designers, Bentein Baardson and Dag Alveberg, are keeping secret some surprises.

But with only one month to go, the wave of journalists, photographers, cameramen. athletes and trainers heading for Lillehammer has started to swell, transforming the sleepy little town into an Olympic

It was difficult to judge whether Wright or Herbie

Hide were the most despised

figures at the ground. Wright

was a predictable target for the

Millwall boo-boys whose jeers

turned to cheers when the Eng-

land striker, booked for a re-

taliatory kick at Ben Thatcher,

was replaced by Paul Merson

hardly have expected the same

treatment when he came out at

half-time to wave to the fans. It

may have been a taste for the

treatment in store for him on

South Londoner cheered to the

echo when he followed Hide

winner of a giant slalom in Val

D'Isere in December, cele-

brated his 22nd birthday with a

second place in a combined

His compatriot Richard

second leg following heavy

Cinema

Kroel was third in 2:50.86.

race," Aamodt said.

in good shape."

But Norwich-based Hide can

after 70 minutes.

onto the pitch.

proved successful.

2:50.47

Aamodt wins 1st World Cup race of the season

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Lendl unhappy with Becker claims on drugs

Sampras advances at NSW Open

SYDNEY (Agencies) — Ivan Lendl said Tuesday that Boris Becker owed tennis an apology if he was unable to back up his claims about drug-taking in the

After beating another former world number one Mats Wilander 6-2, 6-1 in his open-ing match at the New South Wales (NSW) open, the 34-year-old Lendi suggested Becker's printed attack was ill-advised.

"He should apologise if he can't provide proof," said Lendl, who feels the allegations are bad for the game. "If be has it he should put it on the table. Is be right? Not to my knowledge. No."

Fellow German Michael Stich has already called Becker's allegations "stupid" and no-one has yet come forward to back up the three-times Wimbledon champion. He is currently taking a three-month break from the game, awaiting the birth of his first child with his wife Barbara.

Top seed Pete Sampras had an untroubled 6-4, 6-2 win over Jonas Svensson which silenced the American's crinics following his shock defeat to lowly Moroccan Karim Alami in Qatar last week. But it was a bad day for men on the com-

a shadow of his former self against Lendl in the pair's first competitive singles encounter since the 1988 U.S. Open final.

Wilander, in particular, was

The one-sided match lasted just 59 minutes and cast doubt

over the 29-year-old Wilander's ability to climb back up the rankings from his current spot at number 325.

"It's a lot of traveling just to play for an hour," he said ruefully. "At this stage. I want to keep playing. If I have a good Australian Open, then suddenly everyone will start saying I'm back, that's what I'm hoping for."

Australia's Pat Cash also insisted he had a future in the game, despite fading to a 4-6. 6-3, 6-2 defeat against Daniel Vacek of the Czech Republic. "I'm not giving it away."

said Cash, who has been working hard to recover from a serious knee injury. "If I don't win a match in six months it doesn't matter.

The men's and women's events in Sydney lost two seeds apiece, with the men's second seed Andrei Medvedev of the Ukraine out without hitting a

He pulled out with continued knee problems and despite a pain-killing injection to ease the pain and is doubtful for the Australian Open starting next Monday.

His withdrawal at least opened the way for Australian Jamie Morgan to prove a point to tournament organisers who declined to offer him a wild card in his home city. Drafted in as a lute replacement, he beat German Marc Goellner

Eight seed Karel Novacek was hustled out by American Richev Keneberg, while Anke Huber and Judith Wiesner were the seeded women's

casualties. Huber's good form in last week's Hopman Cup deserted her as she lost 6-7, 6-2, 6-1 to Georgian Leila Meskhi, and South African Wayne Ferreira was also brought rapidly back to earth.

Having flown in Tuesday morning after winning the Hawaii Open title Sunday, he suffered a hip injury in the second set of his match with Marc Rosset and was forced to

Sampras, Gabriela Sabatini and several other top tennis players will join in a charity fund-raiser to help victims of devasizing bushfires that have left four people dead and hundreds homeless.

Sampras. Sabatini, Cash, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Coadin Martinez will play in the special event Wednesday night at White City.

All are currently competing in the New South Wales Open. Tournament director Rod Read said the players had

approached him to organise a benefit for the victims of the fires, which continued to burn Tuesday. The programme will feature a series of 13-point tiebreak shoot-outs and mixed doubles matches. More than 136 fires have

wrecked havor over southcasi-

ern Australia over the past At least 185 homes have

been destroyed and 113 severely damaged, and 30 other buildings have been lost. Four people, including two firefighters, have been killed, and thousands treated for smoke

inhalation. The White City gates will be thrown open ... spectators Wednesday evening and players will mix among the crowd taking donations.

Read said a monute's silence would be observed for those who died.

Pam Shriver, president of the Women's Tennis Association, said she had been thinked at the devistation in areas.

surrounding Systems. "Everyone has a lome und-the thought of a all group up to flames is something pretty hor-

rifying," Shriver said.
"I've heard about these bushfires for years and years in Australia. I remember my coach (Don Candy) telling methe people of Australia come to understand this as part of their nature, but it's still fairly disconcerting."

American player Todd Martin said players would donate to the appeal individually, as well as through the men's and women's player associations.

"We're also planning to auc-tion some rackets and clothing," he said.
"It's unusual for us to be in a

city when a catastrophe is so close," said Shriver, "When you see people's homes and their entire possessions go up.

Santana makes claims of match 'manipulation'

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) -Former Brazil national team trainer Tele Santana plunged into the controversy over alleged match-rigging in Brazihan soccer Tuesday, with a claim that the 1990 Sao Paulo Championship had been man-

ipulated. "The referees were picked with the deliberate intention of bringing the title to Corinhe said in an article published in the Jornal Do Brasil newspaper.

"Unfortunately there was no inquiry ... proof was never found," added Santana, who added Santana, who coached Corinthians' archrivals Palmeiras at the time. Corinthians were knocked out in the semifinal stage of the competition, eventually won by Bragantino.

Santana, current coach of world club champions Sao Paulo and in charge of Brazil at the 1982 and 1986 World Cups, said he abandoned soccer in disgust afterwards but was persuaded by Sao Paulo to return,

The outspoken coach gave his backing to Botafogo, Fluminense and Flamengo, who Rio De Janeiro championship. Brazilian soccer hus ceen rocked by a scandal involving allegations of match-fixing in the Rio De Janeiro Soccer Championship.

"What Brazilian football needs now is for the clubs to unite so that, finally, they can decide their future for themselves," Santana said.

He called for more transparency. "In Brazilian football, everything is done in the dark. For example, when a federation signs a contract with a television network, they should make it public, showing it to the press and the clubs.

Last week, referee Claudio Cerdeira accused Rio Federation Director Wagner Canazaro of telling referees they would be responsible for ensuring the results of certain games this year would be in the federation's interests. Canazaro has denied the claim.

Former referee Reginaldo Mathias then said match-fixing in the competition had been going on since 1985.

Federal police said Friday they were launching an invesown official inquiry.

China backs coach after track star's banishment

BEIJING (R) - China's sporting establishment de-fended the iron-fist training of track supercoach Ma Junren Tuesday, even though it forced a world champion to quit the sport at the age of 20.

Liu Dong, who ourst into the limelight by winning the 1,500 metres at the World Championships in Tokyo last year, left the team after clashing with Ma over her love

Ma, whose "family army" of female distance runners took the athletics world by storm last year, accused Liu of flouting national sporting regulations by falling in love and refusing to break off the relationship.

Ma charged that the affair_ jeopardised team discipline and Liu's future as one of the world's top middle-distance runners, the official Yangcheng Evening News of

Guangzhou reported.
Vowing to send Liu home,
Ma hurled her suitcase and her championship cup down the stairs, haited her wages and bonuses and ordered her to month, it said.

mother's home in a tiny village outside Dalian in northeast China and refused to return to the team despite her mother's pleading.

"Muin, I can't do it any ionger." Liu told her mother The Chinerse Sports Commission, asked to comment on the case, defended Ma by explaining that male and female atbletes in national training programmes were barred from having love affairs or marrying

at an early age.

An official in the commission's track and field department told Reuters by telephone that Ma was correct to order Liu end her affair with sprinter Cui Hui.

"I believe that sooner or later she will return to the team," said the official, who declined to give his name.

Ma, two of whose charges Wang Junxia and Qu Yunxia shattered three world records last year, began battering with Liu over her love affair after China 's National Games last September at a high-altitude training camp.

Ma was angered further when Liu failed to turn up for training, the state-run news-

worked tirelessly in the Mill-ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ March 19 when he returns to wall midfield. tigation, while local police in write two self-criticisms a fight for the WBO World have announced they are formtrump, unusual for the minora. The super-charged atmos-Q.1-As South, vulnerable, you Rio were also considering their ing a breakaway league and will not take part in this year's Heavyweight Championship phere contributed to a hotch-Liu instead fled to her against Michael Bentt. A paper said. Q.4-East-West vulnerable, as \$Q1054 ♥107658 ¢6 4K82 potch of a match where hurried

Arsenal manager George Graham left out John Jensen BONN (R) - Katrin Krabbe's athletics club bas turned down and brought in Martin Keown her request to be registered for to do a close marking job on regional indoor championships Etienne Verveer and the move later this month.

Krabbe, banned until August 1995 for doping by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), had asked the Neubrandenburg club Monday for the go-ahead to run at the event in Rostock on Jan. 22.

Her coach Thomas Spring-

stein had also asked the club to put forward the names of teammates Grit Breuer and Manucla Derr who were banned for the same period after the trio admitted to taking

Clenbuterol in 1992. But after a meeting of the club's board a spokesman said it had been agreed not to register world sprint champion Krabbe, Breuer and Derr because of commitments to other athletes it planned to send to

the Rostock event.

"It was not an easy decision to make, but in the end the decisive thing was our commitment to the more than 60 to her athletes that we will regis-

ter," he said.
"That is why we agreed not to register the three runners. The club had been placed in difficult position because Krabbe could destroy the

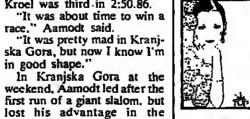
event. Under IAAF rules any

athlete who competes against a

Krabbe denied registration for championships banned athlete is automatically suspended for the same period.

'If we had allowed the trip to start, the rules would have forced us to advise the others not to compete. But then we

would have roberd them. But Krabbe, apparently determined to test the system. was expected to force the issue by seeking to win a court injunction to compete in Restock, athletics sources said.



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TEL AVIV (AFP) - Radioactive waste has overflowed into the desert of southern Israel, the site of a nature reserve, Haaretz newspaper reported Tuesday. The Israeli Nuclear Energy Agency told Haaretz that heavy rainfall had caused the cooling talks of the Dimona nuclear centre to overflow into the Makhtesh Hakatan nature reserve over the last two weeks. But the aecid. : has left no trace of contamination. Environment Minister Yossi Sarid said over Israeli radio. In August 1992. Haaretz reported a rise in levels of radioactivity in the same region after Dimona discharged waters from its cooling anks withou: authorisation. The Health Ministry said there was no contamination. The nuclear centre was built in the 1950s in cooperation with France. Its safety methods are out of date, according to Israeli newspapers.

Lebanese ambassadors named

BEIRUT (AP) - In the first major reshuffle of its diplomatic corps since the eruption of civil war in 1975, Lebanon has named 25 new ambassadors to the western hemisphere, Europe, Asia and Africa, taken in a cabinet session attended by President Elias Hrawi and Prime Minister Rafik Hariri late Monday, was designed to redistribute major diplomatic posts equally between Muslims and Christians, the officials said. The new ambassadors join 35 others who will remain in their posts, according to the officials. Although the breakdown of Muslims and Christians in the new diplomatic lineup was not available, the officials said the new appointments ended a decades-long 6-to-5 Christian edge and ushered in equality. Foremost among the appointments was Riyad Tabbara, a Sunni Muslim, who was named ambassador to Washington, replacing Simon Karam, a Maronite Catholic, who resigned last year, the sources said. Samir Mubarak, a Maronite, was named ambassador to the United Nations, replacing Sunni Khalil Mekkawi, who will retire in July, said the sources.

Zhirinovsky 'proud of' his Jewish father

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Russian ultra-nationalist leader Vladimir Wolfovich Zhirinovsky has told an Israeli newspaper that he is proud of his Jewish father. "I have never hidden that my father was Jewish," Mr. Zhirinovsky said in an interview published in Tuesday's tabloid daily Maariv. "I am proud of my father, of my mother and of my motherland Russia," he said, a year after denying in an Israeli television interview that his father, who died in 1946, was Jewish. The far-right Liberal Democratic Party (DP) leader, who has been accused of stirring up anti-semitism, went on: "Jews in Russia are in a stirring up anti-semitism, went on: "Jews in Russia are in a special situation. Ninety per ceut of the members of Lenin's party were of Jewish origin and many ministers think that the democratic revolution underway in Russia is run by Jews. Russians are not risking joining in the process. "Ninety per cent of the members of my party are Jewish." The Jewish Agency, a semi-official body which runs immigration into Israel, revealed that Mr. Zhirinovsky applied to emigrate to Israel in 1983. He was also active during 1989 in the Russian Jewish group Shalom, made up largely of communists and Zionist Refuzikis, which backed Glasnost, agency official Baruch Gur said.

Church official asks Libya for money

RALEIGH (AP) - An official for the episcopal diocese of North Carolina asked Libya for financial help for one of two men who took hostages at a newspaper office in 1988. The Rev. Jim Lewis wrote to Dr. Ali Ahmad Al Houderi, Libya's ambassador to the United Nations, asking whether Libya would be willing to pay a lawyer for Eddie Hatcher, who is serving an 18-year prison sentence for kidnapping. "Something is wrong when I'm having to appeal to an enemy of our country to try to get a little justice," Mr. Hatcher said Monday in a brief telephone interview from prison. "There are peoplethat have dooe more harm than I have and have already been paroled." Last year, the North Carlina council of churches declared Mr. Hatcher a political prisoner, "We feel that politics is playing a game here." Mr. Lewis said. "I just think it's not politically advantageous to release Eddie at this time when we're talking tough about crime." Mr. Hatcher and Timothy jacobs both pleaded guilty to 14 counts of seconddegree kidnapping after arming themselves with sawed-off shotguns and holding up to 20 people hostage in the newsroom of the Robesonian for 10 hours on Feb. 1, 1988. The two men said they decided to storm the Robeson County newspaper to draw attention to their charges of drug trafficking and corruption in county government. They were acquitted of federal charges in October 1988, then convicted and imprisoned on kidnapping charges brought by a Robeson county grand jury. Sarah Kamal, a secretary at the Libyan mission in New York, said the ambassador had forwarded the letter to

Qadhafi brands militants as 'traitors'

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TRIPOLI (AFP) — Libyan leader Muammer Qadhafi has branded Islamic militants as "traitors" working for the West. Colonel Qadhafi, who has taken a hardline against the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, said "We are ready to destroy and burn" their houses. In a televised speech broadcast late Monday. Militants were "anti-Islamic, and working for the cnemy. backed by Western intelligence... and carrying out a dangerous plot against the Arab and Islamic nation." Among other groups, the Libyan leader singled out the Al Gamaa Al Islamiyah and Talaeh Al Fatah which are at the forefront of a campaign of violence against the government of President Hosni Mubarak in Egypt. Col. Qadhafi spoke in Qarabulli, 50 kilometres east of Tripoli, in a region where the Libyan opposition reported an army mntiny in October.

Maverick Israeii finance minister dies

TEL AVIV (AP) — Yigal Hurwitz, a maverick finance minister who tried to liberalise Israel's economy and brought down the government when he did not get his way, died Monday. He was 75. His son Yoan told the Associated Press he died at his farm in Kfar Warburg after a long illness. Born in a small village in Palestine in 1918, Mr. Hurwitz abandoned his plow for a career in commerce where he made millions by rescuing bankrupt companies. He joined the government in 1977 in Menachem Begin's Likud coalition as minister of of tourism and commerce, but quit in protest over the peace deal with Egypt. With inflation hitting three digits in 1980, he was returned as finance minister. He abandoned the Israeli lira for the shekel and demanded subsidy reductions cowing to "cut into the living flesh" of the budget to force an enormous public service sector to move :: industrial jobs. Hurwitz resigned after a year when the government, exasperated by persistent labour unrest in the early 1980s, overrode his austerity plans. This fractured begins coalition and brought on early elections. Hurwitz later served as a minister without portfolio in subsequent governments as head of his often one-man Ometz Party until 1988.

U.S. team flies home after talks in Israelis

DAMASCUS (R) - A U.S. team seeking information on mission Israeli soldiers left for home Tuesday after talks in Syria and Lebanon which diplomats described as satisfactory. They said the delegation of assistants to congressmen would prepare a report on the outcome of their talks with Syria Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa and Lebanese officials. It was not clear whether they would return to the region. A Lebanese presidential spokesman denied a report quoting official sources as saying the U.S. team would visit Beirut for talks with President Elias Hrawi on Tuesday.



a street of the neighbourhood of Alipasino Polje Sarajevans walk beside the body of a woman, who was killed a few minutes ago by a grenade in in Sarajevo Tuesday (AFP)

Yemenis agree on measures that may end political crisis

SANAA (Agencies) - Yemen's rival factions have agreed to military and political measures they hope will end a crisis that has paralysed the government and plunged the troubled economy into a deeper slump, party sources said

Tuesday. They said a 27-man "national dialogue committee" entrusted with resolving differences between the northern president and his deputy, a southerner, agreed on the measures in Aden late on Mon-

The sources said the measures appeared to go some way towards appeasing the Adenbased Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) of Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beedh, who has stayed away from the capital Sanaa since July amid fears that the 1990 merger between North and South Yemen may be threatened.

The accord calls for the withdrawal of troops and military eneampments from major Yemeni cities and the arrest of Yemenis suspected of involvement in a spate of political killings.

The YSP, which is unified Yemen's second largest party and ruled the former Marxist South Yemen Defor ger, says at least 150 of its members have been assassinated in the past few months -the latest was a pro-YSP tribal leader killed on Friday in

The sources said the accord also meets a key YSP demand for the central bank to come under the authority of the government headed by the YSP's Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas, It has so far been under President Ali Abdullah Saleh, a conservative who ruled North Yemen until the merger.

The YSP earlier rejected re-conciliation with Mr. Saleh and his General People's Congress (GPC), impoverished Yemen's largest party, unless steps were taken to implement its 18 de-

Southern sources say the YSP would not be satisfied with promises and wanted to see concrete actions before ending its boycott of Mr. Saleh. It says the two sides had in the past reached several accords which were never im-

The three parties in the ruling coalition - the YSP, GPC and the Islamist Islah - have been meeting with other Yemeni politicians in Aden for the past 10 days after holding several sessions of the commitlee in the north.

Each of the three parties has five members. The committee also includes five opposition representatives and seven of the country's leading figures such as former presidents.

The sources said that among other points agreed were government spending cuts, anticorruption measures and some decentralisation measures that would reduce the power of the central government in Sanaa. It was also agreed that a date be set for local elections after last year's first democratie general elections.

4 oil workers freed

Four Yemeni employees of the U.S. Firm Hunt Oil have been released by tribal leaders who were still holding five others including a Briton and a Canadian. Yemeni officials

said Glenn Peterman of

He said archaeologists at

work at the site expect to find

up to 50 scrolls. Some of

those already found were

parts of one scroll, and thus it

is difficult at this time to

pinpoint the exact number of

Mr. Peterman said it was a

"very tricky process" to read

the scrolls further because

they were all carbonised.

But, he said, there are techni-

ques which could salvage the

scrolls through a process in-volving chemical treatment

and taking down the scrolls

It will be a "very expensive

process, and there are only

five or six people" in the

world qualified to do the job.

Mr. Perterman told the Jor-

dan Times, adding that

ACOR was putting together

a team of experts to be en-

dated to be written within a

span of 200 years, unroll only

from top to bottom and the

texts are in single columns on

The carbonisation made it

a very delicate task to unroll

the scrolls for fear of frag-

mentation. But some of the

scrolls have writings on both

sides and the text is readable

only on isolated papyrus frag-

"Some translated words

seem to refer to a spiritual or

tangible heritage; an agree-

ment (contract) or confes-

sion, and one word has been

translated alternatively as 'by

the inside of the scrolls.

The scrolls, all tentatively

trusted with the task.

piece by piece.

the documents, he said.

ACOR.

tribe kidnapped the nine Tues-day in the Maareb region 100 kilometres east of here and are demanding money and the release of one of their own men in exchange, Hunt engineers said. It was earlier reported that only six people had been abducted

A group from the Khawlan

Officials said three Yemeni workers had volunteered to stay with Briton Peter Jackson and Canadian George Haw-kins while four other local employees were released. Hunt Oil executives refused

to make any comment, saying the case was now in the hands of the government "which is continuing its efforts."

The nine were kidnapped after flying to the Maareb area to inspect a leak at a pumping station. Hunt engineers said, adding that the helicopter was also seized.

In an unconfirmed report, the Yemeni Socialist Party's Al Thawri newspaper reported the oil workers were trying to defuse a bomb planted by the Khawlan on one of the com-

pany's pipelines. Several other foreigners have been abducted in recent months by tribes trying to exert pressure on the government, struggling to cope with serious

Daham tribesmen kidnapped an American diplomat. Haynes Mahoney, in November holding him for a week. It also held two American engineers from Hunt Oil for five

days in May. The Daham and Khawian are part of the Bakil tribal, group, which is generally loval to President Saleh. But the Khawlan are known to support

Petra papyrus scrolls unravel fragment of Byzantine history fire' or 'related to wheat','

By P.V. Vivekanand Iordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Papyrus scrolls unearthed near a Byzantineera church in Petra has been identified as dating back to the fifth and sixth centuries A.D. and contain the name of a patriarch who, history says, was banished to the ancient city during that period, according to the American Centre for Oriental Research (ACOR).

The findings indicate that the church itself could have been the seat of a Christian bishop of Palestine dating back to the same period. ACOR said.

ACOR, which is conducting excavations at the site, said the identification of the scrolls, discovered in early December, was made with help from Ludwig Koenen. professor of papyrology at the University of Michigan and former president of the American Philological Association.

The scrolls, of a type characteristic of the Byzantine period. have to undergo much eloser examination before more definite results could be obtained but initial findings indicate that they were written by more than one person and could be personal writings such as sermons, letters or contracts. rather than literary work. ACOR said.

The documents are in cursive Greek "documentary style" typical of the 5th-6th centuries, said ACOR. whose excavations at the site are conducted in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities under a grant from the United States Agency for International Aid (USAID).

Forty scrolls have been found and work is con-ACOR said in a press statetinuing. Their width is about ment. Another fragment refers to a "king." 30 centimetres and could run Non-Greek script has not into several metres in length.

yet been identified, and it is possible that it could be some form of Aramaie. The scrolls were unearthed

after archaologists continued work in an area adjacent to the Byzantine church, which was discovered in 1990 and opened for the media in May 1993. The church floor is inlaid with mosaics with colourful images of birds, animals and stars.

According to ACOR, the most significant find among the scrolls is a fragment bearing words translatable as "Flavianus Patriarchaus" --apparently referring to Flavianus, a patriarch of Antioch who was banished to Petra in early sixth century for alleged heresy by Byzantine Empereor Anastasius. Flavanius is believed to have lived in Petra for the last six years of his life.

The nature of the text in which bis name is mentioned is not known yet, but "the arrangement of the texts in the scrolls indicate that they are more likely personal writings... standardised or published text like a Bible or a Greek tragedy," ACOR said.

This significant reference "strengthens the suggestion that the recently excavated basilica may have been the seat of the Bishop of Third Palestine - which is known from historic texts to be located in Petra, and that the adjacent structure in which the scrolls were found was perhaps a monastery. according to ACOR.

Bosnia rivals ignore NATO and peace talks

SARAJEVO (R) - Bosnia's warring factions, ignoring threats of Western air strikes and peace talks Tuesday, continued to shell Sarajevo halting relief flights into the city just hours after they had started again.

A woman was killed and 13 people wounded as shells began pounding Sarajevo while North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) leaders meeting in Brussels renewed their threat of air strikes to break the Serb stranglehold on the city.

The United Nations suspended relief flights into Sarajevo when mortar rounds hit the centre of the runway just after the airlift had re-

A U.N. relief official in Geneva said an American plane was on the ground at the time and a Canadian aircraft had only just taken off. But there were no immediate reports of injuries.

Reporters in the city said that while both sides had traded fire, much of Tuesday's shelling appeared to be going out from Muslim-held posi-

The NATO summit also called for the opening of Tuzla airport for aid deliveries and the relief of U.N. troops trapped in the eastern Muslim enclave of Srebrenica.

A final summit statement contained no specific threat to use air power now in support of those two objectives but U.S. President Bill Clinton said either of them could involve air strikes.

The summit ordered NATO's military officers to

OCCUPIED · JERUSALEM

(AFP) - A Palestiman con-

struction group put forward

Tuesday "a giant national project" to build 13 towns on the

West Bank and Gaza Strip at a

cost of some \$90 billion over

Three cities in Gaza would

each house 250,000 people and

another 10 developments on

the West Bank a total of

500,000, said Issa Odeh, a

director of the Philistia build-

"To erect a strong and dur-

able economy we see that there

is the need for a giant national

project which can concentrate

all the Palestinian forces... and

constitute the backbone of this

economy," he told a press con-

Mr. Odeh predicted the pri-

More than 600,000 of the

780,000 Palestinians living in

Gaza are considered refugees

by the United Nations and

330,000 of them live in camps.

480,000 of the 1.2 million

Palestinians are refugees, 125,000 of them in U.N.-run

Mr. Odeh called on the

On the West Bank, nearly

vate sector plan would create

the next decade.

ing firm.

ference.

150,000 jobs.

Palestinian firm plans

to build 13 new towns

draw up plans for possible air

renica. French and British officials had suggested on Monday that they were looking for a stronger and more specific ultimatum including the threat of

immediate air strikes. But this met opposition from some allies, in particular Canada whose soldiers are trapped in Srebrenica.

In Bonn, Croatian President Franjo Tudjman backed away from initial claims that Bosnia's Muslim-led government had backed a draft peace settlement, saying only that Muslims favoured a pact with Bosnian Croats.

Mr. Tudiman said Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovie had left peace talks in Bonn promising to order a halt to a Muslim offensive in central Bosnia but urging more consideration of Croation proposals for an overall peace plan.

A Bosnian spokesman in Bonn said both sides had agreed to enter "expert-level talks" this week on ending

Mr. Tudjman said Mr. Izetbegovic had promised to answer with his own proposals by Jan. 15, three days before full-scale talks on ending the 21-month, three-way Bosnian civil war resume in Geneva.

As Mr. Tudjman spoke, hard-pressed Bosnian Croat soldiers fought to defend a Croat enclave in the Lasva Valley from encircling Muslim forces for a third day.

Nine people were reported killed since the start of the Muslim offensive on Sunday.

Palestine Liberation Organisa-

tion (PLO), Israel and the in-

ternational community to sup-

port the project, saving 40 per cent of the financing would

have to be foreign investment

According to Hassan Abu

Libdeh, in charge of the PLO's

technical committee preparing

for aotonomy, the housing

An average of nine people

live in each house or apartment

on the Gaza Strip and 7.5

people in each unit on the

that 120,000 new units were

needed each year to bring

down the number to six people

per house by the year 2000.

However, Ibrahim Shaaban,

This will reflect negatively on

Palestiman credibility before

donor countries," he said, call-

\$20-million European Com-

munity funded housing project

Philistia, based in Jeru-salem, has 75 employees en-

gaged mainly in construction

The council is directing a

ing for coordination

projects in Israel.

in Gaza.

head of the Palestinian housing

council, hit out at the project.

Mr. Abn Libdeh estimated

situation in the occupied

tories is catastrophic.

West Bank.

and cheap loans.

strikes around Tuzla and Sreb-What NATO

giveth. NATO taketh away

comes to the draft communique to be adopted at the NATO summit bere, journal ists discovered that what the alliance giveth, the alliance also taketh away. While NATO diplomats were busy distributing the texts to jour. oalists, its security men were just as conscientionsly seizing them as confidential and class. fied documents. One reporter arriving for a routine security check on the second day of the in his briefcase thoroughly and Thersday. cated. Security men were also finten to ask for seen scouring the trace. seen scouring the press area for wayward texts. Which had been widely circulated among journalists in advance journalists in advance as is gatherings. North Atlantic per the COUNTY of Treaty Organisation (NATO) officials complained the drafts had become too public and one German newspaper had published the entire text. Even if the wording on the Bosniz conflict was still hotly debated. One NATO military official bad a word of friendly advice to reporters: "Just white out the word 'confidential' and you'll have no problem," he

Cilnton takes a stroll through Brussels

BRUSSELS (R) — U.S. President Bill Clinton went on a 45-minute sightseeing stroll through Brussels just before midnight Monday after a working dinner with other NATO leaders. Mr. Clinton, accompanied by National Security Adviser Anthony Lake, stopped to chat to waiters closing up restaurants as he walked round the Hot Sacre and Grand Place areas. He also stopped to peer through the window of an antique shop called La Trottinette that be recognised from a previous visit. Wakened by the stir outside, the shop owner turned on the bights, came downstairs and opened the door to welcome Mr. China and Mr. Lake. Mr. Chinton looked round the shop and took a particular interest in the antique toys - probably with his 13-year-old daughter Chelsea in mind. An aid said he purchased something but would not say what it was

Bank president shot by ex-director

LUGANO, Switzerland (AFT) — The head of Lugano's Gothard Bank was scriously wounded Monday by a former fellow-director who burst into his office and shot him in the dent Claudio Generali, 50, was shot in a lung by Walter Cane-pa, the mayor of the eastern Swiss town of Mezzovicos police added. After the shoot ing Mr. Canepa, who was been mayor for the 30 years, struck a customer on the head with the barrel of his revolver and threatend to jump from the bank's internal tower before giving himself up to authorities, police added. Mr. Generali underwent an operation Monday afternoon and his life was not in danger, officials said. Police said they did not know whether Mr. Canepa was still employed by the bank.

Proific Phlippine eagle dles

MANILA (AP) - Diola, the Philippine eagle that hatched the first two chicks of the endangered species ever bred in captivity, has died, officials said Tuesday. Israel Gaddi. regional director of the De-partment of Environment and Natural Resources said in A report that Diola died of car-diopulmonary failure at the Philippine Eagle Camp in Malagos village in southern Davao City, 976 kilometres southeast of Manila, on Ian I Diola would have been 25 years old next month. The his span of Philippine eagles \$45-60 years, said Lito Sereno, education officer of the Philip pine Eagle Conservation Prosramme. The death brought the Philippine eagle population to 54, including 36 in the wide Widespread deforestation been responsible for the eagles decline. Diola hatched Pag-Asa (Hope), the first Fig. lippine eagle bred in capativity, in January 1992, and another eaglet. Pagkakaisa (Unity), a year later.

U.S.-Saudi talks move ahead on payment delay

WASHINGTON (R) - The United States and Saudi Atahia are making progress in talks on a Saudi request to stretch out billions of dollars in payments for U.S. military weapons, defence officials said

Saudi Arahia, strapped for cash by low international oil prices, wants to restructure payments and avoid cancelling any of its planned \$30 billion in U.S arms purchases.

"We anticipate it will be several weeks before an agreement is reached," said one of the detence officials, who asked not to be identified, after meeting Saudi Ambassador Prince Bandar Ben Sultan. The Saudi ambassador mer

with top Detence Department officials and representatives of fice defence firms in Washington over the weekend. On Monday, Prince Bandar

met Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen to discuss the issue. hat administration officials declined to offer any details about the meeting at the Treasury Department, Any major delay or ent in

arms siles to Saudi Arabia. America's biggest military customer in recent years, could seml linancial shock waves through the U.S. defence industre, especially in California. The Clinton administration, worried about a possible further loss of defence industry

jobs, is believed auxious to

allow the Saudis to hic on

credit temporards what they once bought for each.

Defence officials relused to give details of the weekend meetings, but Air Force Major Tom Larock, a Pentagon spokesman, said Prince Bandar Sunday met Depute U.S. Defence Secretary William Perry, arme Lieutenant-General Thomas Rhame and other government officials.

Officials of General Dynamics Corporation also confirmed that Prince Bandar met representatives Saturday of the company and of McDonnell Douglas Corp. FMC Corp. Raythean Co and the Hughes aircraft division of General Motors Corp.

Prince Bandar told the Wall Street journal in an interciew published Monday the plan would be presented to Mr. Bentsen, Commerce Secretary Run Brown and Pentagon officials, and that he expected it to he made final by the end of this

The Saudis, Punce Bandar said, wanted to restructure some In billion of its U.S. arms payments over the next two years to the five defence firms under a tentative plan discussed over the weekend.

Defence officials told Reuters last week the Saudis have emphasised they do not plan on cancelling ane U.S. weapons purchases, ranging from 72 F-15 fighter jets from McDonnell Douglas to radars made by Hughes.

BRUSSELS (AFP) - When it

MAN (Petra) - To onman side was he Pader Fakhri Sh committee will re-

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hsts shake Ga IZA CITY, OCCUPIE isions shock a intournood that it Israeli military estar. But no reported. A was followed and the army is discossil experi

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ares when the zei and will releas s before July 13 im belonging to zecay) factions p so the armed st sission a leafiet.